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THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 50

JANUARY 1984

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NUMBER 1

THE MONTH

1984

The month was cold and snowy, the seventh coldest December in the annals of the local weather bureau. The snow squalls which beset the area during the last few days of November continued into the first week of December with a general snow on the 4th changing to rain as warm southeast winds brought a brief respite. By December 7th a new cold front brought a return of the heavy squall activity which was precipitated by the comparatively warm temperature of the waters of Lake Erie which did not drop to 32° (F) until the 27th. Another brief spell of mild weather between December 12th and 15th ended with heavy snow on the 16th and bitter cold weather which gripped the region until the end of the month. High winds and snow caused the closing of the N.Y. State Thruway south of Buffalo on December 24th, stranding hundreds of holiday travelers. Low temperatures at Buffalo during this period include a -7° (F) reading on December 20th, tying the mark set on that date in 1942 and record low readings of -8° (F) on the 21st and -3° (F) on the 26th. The thermometer registered zero or below on five days between December 19th and the end of the month. During the height of the squall activity during the last ten days of the month, many reports were received at the Museum of Science concerning Horned Grebes forced down by the high winds and zero visibility in blowing snow and landing with ice-caked wings on highways and other cleared surfaces which it is believed these birds mistake for open water. As many as thirty calls were received concerning dead and injured grebes. The average temperature for the month was 22.7° (F), six degrees below the norm for the period; snow fall measured 52 inches including twelve inches which fell during the storm on the 16th, 29.6 inches above average for the month. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

In spite of the execrable weather conditions persisting through most of December, many interesting records were received from our intrepid field observers. Dr. Stephen Eaton reported a lone Pied-billed Grebe wintering on the Allegheny River

at Olean where it was seen most of the month. Art Schaffner and Terry Mosher saw a second Pied-billed Grebe in Dunkirk Harbor on December 21st. Dunkirk Harbor also sheltered up to seven Double-crested Cormorants from the squalls of Lake Erie during the month. Elizabeth Brooks observed a flock of 54 Tundra Swans over the Village of Alfred on December 1st, apparently a remnant of the big flight of these birds through the Niagara Frontier in late November. During the B.O.S. Christmas Count on December 18th, 600 Canada Geese were seen in the Niagara River between Fort Erie and Niagara Falls, Ontario and apparently an additional 400 geese were counted at Beaver Island State Park on Grand Island. One Brant was also reported at Beaver Island State Park on that date. Bob Klips observed eight Black Scoters in the South Harbor near Tifft Street in Buffalo on December 10th. An estimated 7000 Common Mergansers were seen in the Niagara River around Grand Island during the B.O.S. Christmas Count. There were many reports of accipiters, mostly Cooper's Hawks, haunting feeders as weather conditions worsened in December. Elizabeth Brooks recounts how an Evening Grosbeak she had snared in her mist net in the course of banding operations on December 7th, was taken and killed by a Cooper's Hawk which also became entangled before being released by Mrs. Brooks - without its prey!

A late Red Phalarope was found at Dunkirk Harbor by Frances Rew on December 2nd; it was subsequently seen by Terry Mosher and several other members of the Lake Erie Bird Club during the next few days. The phalarope spent most of its time feeding in the water between the rocky breakwall and the inner wall of the east harbor; it was swimming in the slow half circles characteristic of this family. Although ten species of gulls were reported between Niagara Falls and Queenston, Ontario during the first week of December, comparatively few records were received by the compiler. On December 25th, Bob Klips and Paul Sieracki observed an immature Black-legged Kittiwake in first winter plumage flying among a flock of Bonaparte's Gulls at Dufferin Island, a short distance from the rapids of the upper Niagara River at Niagara Falls, Ontario. The bird, which was noticeably larger than its companions, displayed the prominent black outer primary feathers, the thick black "carpal bar" across the inner wings and the slightly forked tail with the narrow bank, diagnostic for the species in this plumage.

Only one record of Snowy Owl was received by the compiler for December, that of a bird seen at Darien Center in Genesee County by Tom Harper on the 15th. There were verbal reports of one and perhaps two Snowy Owls on the Buffalo waterfront and another in the Town of Wheatfield in Niagara County near the Niagara Falls Airport. In any case, it is definitely not a flight year for this owl.

Harold Axtell observed two Pine Warblers visiting feeders at 91 Drummond Crescent in the Town of Fort Erie, Ontario on December 18th. The birds remained at that location for the rest of the month where one or both of them were seen by many observers. The warblers showed a definite preference of chunks of suet in the provender set out for them and a host of other birds visiting these feeders.

Elizabeth Brooks writes that an American Tree Sparrow originally banded by her on November 15th, 1976 was snared in her mist net on December 2nd. It is the ninth time in eight years that this bird has been recovered (band no. 1370-59030) during banding operations between November and February. Doris and Lou Burton reported a flock of 150 House Finches visiting their feeders in the Village of Belmont

in Allegany County on December 16th. A verbal communication received at the Buffalo Museum of Science tells of two Common Redpolls visiting a feeder on Shorewood Drive in Dunkirk on December 1st and 2nd. It is the only reported occurrence of a redpoll on the Niagara Frontier, to date this winter to reach this writer's ears. Four Pine Grosbeaks were reported on the Cattaraugus County Bird Club Christmas Count which centered around St. Bonaventure University west of Olean on December 17th. A late Fox Sparrow was also seen on that count.

Finally, Willie D'Anna, an astute field observer and faithful correspondent of the B.O.S. in Niagara County, has advised that a new group has been formed for the study of birds in that county. It is called The Institute For The Study of Nature Ornithological Society (ISNOS) and during its brief existence in 1983, recorded 197 species of birds seen in field trips in Niagara County, Grand Island and the wetlands of the Oak Orchard area in Genesee, Niagara and Orleans counties. Anyone who is interested in joining this group and participate in its field activities, may contact Mr. D'Anna at 2257 Cayuga Drive Ext., Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

DECEMBER NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year,
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Horned Grebe	Dec. 2,16,30	29,26,2 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
	" 6	38 Point Gratiot	Mosher
	" 13	41 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	" 21	12 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner, Mosher
Pied-billed Grebe	" 21	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner, Mosher
	" 23,30	3,3 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
D.-cr. Cormorant	" 16,30	7,1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
	" 21	8 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner, Mosher
Tundra Swan	" 1	54 over Alfred	Brooks
Canada Goose	" 8	2 Wellsville	Burtens
	" 11	40 Niagara Falls, Ont.	McKales
	" 21	8 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner, Mosher
Gadwall	" 21	13 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner, Mosher
	" 30	21 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Black Scoter	" 10	8 Buffalo Harbor	Klips

Volume 50, No. 1 "December Noteworthy Records" cont.

White-w. Scoter	Dec.	3	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
Hooded Merganser	"	3	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
Ruddy Duck	"	15	1	Niagara River, Bflo.	Klips
Northern Harrier	"	28	1	Town of Sheridan	Mosher, Sundell
	"	31	1	Town of Wales	Rosches
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	10-30	1	Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	23	1	Town of Holland	Becker
Cooper's Hawk	"	1,11,23	1,1,1	Darien Center (f)	Harper
	"	6	1	Orchard Park	Saville
	"	7	1	Alfred	Brooks
	"	12	1	Depew	Barbers
	"	23	1	Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	26,29	1,1	Darien Center(f)	Harper
	"	28	1	Town of Belmont	Burtions
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	10	1	Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
	"	17	1	Alfred	Brooks
American Coot	"	21	34	Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner, Mosher
Killdeer	"	3,9,16	2,2,1	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
*Red Phalarope	"	2,3,9,16	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
	"	3	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Kumler
Bonaparte's Gull	"	21	400	Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner, Mosher
Iceland Gull	"	3,10	1,1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	25	4	Adam Beck Hydro	Klips, Sieracki
	"	30	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Glaucous Gull	"	3,10	1,1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	25	2	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Klips, Sieracki
	"	25	1	Adam Beck Hydro	Klips, Sieracki
Bl.-leg. Kittiwake	"	25	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Klips, Sieracki
Snowy Owl	"	15	1	Darien Center	Harper
Short-eared Owl	"	20	2	Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Chilton
	"	31	1	Town of Java	Rosche et al
Belted Kingfisher	"	5,10	1,1	Belmont	Burtions
	"	27	2	Scio	Pitzrick
Red-bellied Wdpr.	"	1-31	1	Spring Brook	Danner
	"	9,28,30	1,1,1	Belmont	Burtions
	"	15,20	1,1	Town of Elma	Forsberg
Northern Flicker	"	1-31	1	Spring Brook	Danner
	"	11	1	Grand Island	McKales
	"	15	1	Town of Elma	Forsberg
	"	29	1	Bond Lake	D'Anna, Potter
Horned Lark	"	16	33	Cassadaga	Rew, Buck
(E.a. alpestris)					
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-31	2	Town of Pomfret (f)	Mosher
	"	1-31	3-6	Amity Lake	Pitzrick, Button
	"	4	1	Town of Elma	Forsberg
	"	25-31	1	Town of Holland	Becker
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	6,21	2,2	Alfred	Brooks
	"	26-31	1	Orchard Park	Saville
	"	29	1	Town of Wales	Rosche
Carolina Wren	"	1-31	1	Alfred	Brooks et al

Volume 50, No. 1 "December Noteworthy Records" cont.

American Robin	Dec.	30	5 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Rosche
"	"	30	1 East Aurora	Becker
N. Mockingbird	"	25	1 Adam Beck Hydro	Klips, Sieracki
Water Pipit	"	9	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Northern Shrike	"	10	1 West Seneca	Becker
"	"	11	1 Grand Island	McKales
"	"	27	1 Town of Sheridan	Mosher, Chilton
"	"	29	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
Pine Warbler	"	<u>18-31</u>	1 Fort Erie, Ont. (f)	Axtell
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	"	1-31	2 Darien Center (f)	Harper
"	"	1-31	8-10 Spring Brook	Danner
"	"	1-31	2-12 Orchard Park	Saville
"	"	1-31	1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	1-31	4-6 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	8-31	1-2 Eggertsville (f)	McKales
"	"	21	1 Lockport	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	21	1 Town of Pomfret (f)	Schaffner, Mosher
"	"	23-31	1-2 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
"	"	29	1 Niagara Falls (f)	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	29	1 Bond Lake	D'Anna, Potter
Wh.-cr. Sparrow	"	1-31	1 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	29	1 Ransombille (f)	D'Anna, Potter
Song Sparrow	"	1-31	1-2 Darien Center (f)	Harper
"	"	8-28	1 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	"	14-31	1-2 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	20-30	1 Wheatfield (f)	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	23-30	1 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
Dark-eyed Junco	"	11	50 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Lapland Longspur	"	31	1 Town of Cambria	Cooper
Snow Bunting	"	10	12 North Collins	McKales
"	"	16	1 Cassadaga	Rew, Buck
"	"	31	1 Town of Cambria	Cooper
"	"	31	5 Sanborn	Cooper
Red-w. Blackbird	"	1-31	1-4 Eggertsville (f)	McKales
"	"	30,31	1,1 Belmont	Burtons
Common Grackle	"	1-31	1-3 Eggertsville (f)	McKales
"	"	7,24	1,1 Wheatfield (f)	D'Anna, Potter
Brown-h. Cowbird	"	1-31	3-16 Kenmore (f)	Thills
"	"	1-31	10-20 Eggertsville (f)	McKales
"	"	16-31	1-4 Wheatfield (f)	D'Anna, Potter
House Finch	"	1-31	40 Town of Elma	Forsberg
"	"	9-31	40 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
"	"	16	150 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	27,28	115,60 Scio	Pitzrick
Pine Siskin	"	9	1 Depew	Barbers
"	"	19-31	1 Darien Center (f)	Harper
American Goldfinch	"	7-31	40-60 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
Evening Grosbeak	"	1-31	6-60 Darien Center (f)	Harper
"	"	1-31	10-34 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	"	1-31	25 Town of Holland	Becker

Evening Grosbeak	Dec.	1-31	3-27 Orchard Park	Saville
(cont.)	"	1-31	15-30 Belmont	Burtens
	"	4	2 Town of Elma	Forsberg
	"	9-31	30-50 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
	"	21	5 Town of Pomfret (f)	Schaffner, Mosher
	"	31	2 Spring Brook	Danner

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.	271
New for November - Townsend's Solitaire, Purple Sandpiper.	2
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue.	<u>2</u>
Total for year	275

Addenda 1983

Brant	June	<u>25</u>	1 Port Colborne	Clements
<u>Goshawk</u>	Jan.	2	1 Town of Charlotte	Jones, Mahoney
<u>Golden Eagle</u>	Apr.	28	1 West Seneca	Happ
<u>Lsr. Black-b. Gull</u>	Feb.	27	1 Iroquois NWR	Keller et al
Marsh Wren	Jan.	<u>2</u>	1 Town of Arkwright	Jones, Mahoney
Golden-cr. Kinglet	July	<u>1-31</u>	6 + 4YO Foster Lake	Brooks
			(6 in previously documented breeding areas)	
<u>Townsend's Solitaire</u>	Nov.	6	1 Fonthill, Ont.	Knaptons
			(new species for region)	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	July	<u>1-31</u>	16 Allegany County	Brooks
			(territorial males; including 5 active nests)	
Prairie Warbler	July	<u>1-31</u>	13 Allegany County	Brooks
			(territorial males; including 3 active nests; previously documented breeding areas)	
Chipping Sparrow	Jan.	<u>2</u>	1 Fredonia	Carlson

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

Niagara River From Fort Erie to Niagara-On-The-Lake
Field Trip, December 4, 1983

The day started out with icy roads and a heavy snowfall. No birders' showed at Vermont and Busti or at the parking lot on the Canadian side. Since I had driven all the way in from Darien Center I was not about to head back home. Along with my two older boys I headed downriver to the falls. Along the river we found Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, Lesser Scaup, Black Duck, Mallard, Canvasback,

Field Trip, December 4, 1983 cont.

Common and Red-breasted Merganser. At the falls we met a few other birders. We could not find the Eurasian Wigeon (visibility was bad) or the Barrow's Goldeneye. We did find American Wigeon, Gadwall, Pintail and seven species of gulls, including Glaucous, Iceland and Thayer's. Moving downriver from the falls we found a Hooded Merganser. At Sir Adam Beck another Iceland Gull, at Queenston a Mockingbird, and at Niagara-on-the-Lake a Brown Creeper, Belted Kingfisher and Horned Grebe.

It was an enjoyable trip in spite of the weather.

Trip Leader: Tom Harper

EXCERPTS FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING MINUTES of December 14, 1983

Membership: Dr. Edward Crohn was approved for Associate Membership.

Walt Klabunde reported that 95% of the paths were cleared at the B.O.S. refuge at the recent clean-up meeting. A feeder was set up on the South side of the property.

Bob Klips stated the B.O.S. Constitution calls for an Editorial Board for the Prothonotary to consist of 3 members appointed by the Editor and approved by the Council. Duties of the Editorial Board would include making decisions as to what should be included in the Prothonotary, helping to perform production tasks and looking for ways to improve the quality of the newsletter.

Program: A very informative talk on birding publications was given by Marie Wendling. Western New York, New York State, national and some of the international publications were reviewed.

Bird Sightings: Eight Black Scoters in the Buffalo Harbor a Red Phalarope in the Dunkirk Harbor; a large number of Robins on Buckhorn Island and the Eurasian Wigeon in Niagara Falls.

Submitted by:

Julia Wells, Secretary

REPORT OF THE FIFTY-FIFTH B.O.S. CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

December 13, 1983

Compiled by Bill Bogacki

A good Christmas count resulted from the hard work of 40 participants in the Buffalo circle. Seventy-nine species plus one Mallard x Black Duck hybrid were counted; 36,334 individuals were reported in the 16 territories.

Fifty-Fifth B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count cont.

With regard to the 1983 count, the Oldsquaw was missing for the second time ever. The Barrow's Goldeneye was reported for the seventh time. Birds recorded for the first time include Brant and Eurasian Wigeon (one each) and two Pine Warblers. All-time highs were Northern Flicker (41) and House Finch (193). At a record low was the Ring-necked Pheasant (7).

Other interesting facts and figures of the 55th Buffalo Circle Christmas Count are reported below.

Date: December 18, 1983

Area: Centering on Grand Island, including both branches of the Niagara River and adjacent territory -- from the Gorge below the Falls to Fort Erie and Buffalo.

Weather: The sky was overcast in both the morning and the afternoon. Temperatures ranged from an early morning low of 19⁰(F) to an afternoon high of 23⁰(F), with winds from the west at 5-10 mph. The Niagara River was mostly free of ice, but many smaller bodies of water, especially ponds and inlets, were ice-covered. The snow cover ranged from three to eight inches with heavier collections in some places varying with topography and ground cover.

Coverage: Forty observers in 16 parties made observations from 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Party-hours were 128 (49 on foot and 71 by car), plus 3 hours at feeders and 8 hours owling. Party-miles were 824 (56 on foot and 764 by car).

Territories and Observers: (leaders underlined)

- A. Canada: Rainbow Bridge south to Welland River and Niagara River west to M.C.R.R., Portage Road and area boundary. Robert Andrie, Richard Byron, Barbara Tomasi, James Gregory, Art Partridge. 44 species; 10,733 individuals.
- B. Canada: Welland River south to Black Creek and the Niagara River west to the Queen Elizabeth Way and area boundary. Wavel & Maxine Barber. 29 species; 6,911 individuals.
- C. Canada: Queen Elizabeth Way west to area boundary and south to Bowen Road. Arthur Schaffner. 22 species; 1,332 individuals.
- D. Canada: Black Creek south to the Peace Bridge and the Niagara River west to the Queen Elizabeth Way. Pauline & Robert Schwartz. 29 species; 1,446 individuals.
- E. Canada: Bowen Road south to area boundary and east to Queen Elizabeth Way and Niagara River. Harold Axtell, Blayne Farnan, Gary Novosel, Robert Sommerville. 44 species; 1,773 individuals.

Fifty-Fifth B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count cont.

- F. Niagara Falls: Porter Road, Hyde Park Boulevard, Pine Avenue and Main Street south to Niagara River, including Goat and Cayuga Islands, and east to Military Road. Karen Renning, Bill Vaughn, Edward Crohn, Mary Ann Stegmeier. 38 species; 37,238 individuals.
- G. North Tonawanda: Military Road southeast to N.Y. State Barge Canal and Niagara River northeast to area boundary. Marie Wendling, Mary Clemesha, Betty Heilborn, Gertrude Ruggles. 20 species; 542 individuals.
- H. Tonawanda: Sheridan Drive north to N.Y. State Barge Canal and Niagara River east to area boundary. Marc Chelemer, Jeff Zehr. 28 species; 681 individuals.
- J. Buffalo: Sheridan Drive east and south to area boundary, west to Niagara River. Margaret Wright, Barbara Lindeman. 31 species; 5,781 individuals.
- K. Grand Island: West of Stony Point Road, north of Huth and Long Roads to the Niagara River. Walter & Harriette Klabunde, Ann Miranian. 34 species; 1,963 individuals.
- L. Grand Island: Huth and Long Roads south to Whitehaven Road, and Stony Point Road west to the Niagara River. Lincoln Nutting, Bill Burch. 29 species; 400 individuals.
- M. Grand Island: East of Stony Point Road and north of Whitehaven Road to the Niagara River. Mike Zebehazy, David Cooper, Leonard Pepkowitz. 34 species; 577 individuals.
- N. Grand Island: Whitehaven Road south to Love Road and Baseline Road west to Niagara River. Robert Brock. 29 species; 537 individuals.
- O. Grand Island: Whitehaven Road south to Love Road, and Baseline Road east to the Niagara River. Julia Wells. 28 species; 489 individuals.
- P. Grand Island: Love Road south to Spaulding Road from the East Branch to the West Branch of the Niagara River. Doug Happ, Joe Ghosen. 33 species; 1,941 individuals.
- Q. Grand Island: South of Spaulding Road to the Niagara River. Bill Bogacki, Dick Christensen. 36 species; 5,492 individuals.

Species Recorded: With reference to the species count, letters in parentheses indicate the territories where the birds were found, in those cases where they were reported from three or fewer territories.

Common Loon	3	(F) (L)
Pied-billed Grebe	1	(K)

Fifty-Fifth B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count cont.

Horned Grebe	28	High; prev. high 33 (1957); tied in (1950)
Great Blue Heron	5	(L) (M)
Tundra Swan	2	(Q)
Brant	1	(Q) First time ever
Canada Goose	1,079	High; previous high 450 (1958)
Wood Duck	4	(J)
Green-w. Teal	5	(F)
Amer. Black Duck	196	
Mallard	1,787	High; previous high 2,505 (1981)
Northern Pintail	27	(A) (F) (J)
Gadwall	57	
Eurasian Wigeon	1	(A) First time ever
Amer. Wigeon	60	
Canvasback	4,543	
Redhead	269	
Greater Scaup	1,745	
Lesser Scaup	9	(E) (N)
White-w. Scoter	2	(E)
Common Goldeneye	3,664	
Bufflehead	547	
Hooded Merganser	38	(D) (K) (Q)
Common Merganser	10,480	
Red-br. Merganser	209	
Cooper's Hawk	4	(E) (G) (M)
Red-tailed Hawk	46	
Amer. Kestrel	45	
Ring-n. Pheasant	7	(F) All time low; prev. low 10 (1961); High 817 (1933)
Killdeer	1	(Q)
Purple Sandpiper	6	(A) (F)
Dunlin	1	(F)
Bonaparte's Gull	5,873	
Ring-billed Gull	4,794	
Herring Gull	10,100	
Iceland Gull	1	(A)
Glaucous Gull	6	(A) (F)
Great Black-b. Gull	262	
Rock Dove	590	
Mourning Dove	314	
East. Screech-Owl	12	(L) (M) (P)
Great Horned Owl	6	
Long-eared Owl	2	(E)
Belted Kingfisher	7	
Red-headed Wdpkr.	3	(C) (E)
Downy Woodpecker	79	
Hairy Woodpecker	11	
Northern Flicker	41	All time high; last high 27 (1974)
H. Lark (<u>E.a. praticola</u>)	43	(C) (E)

Fifty-Fifth B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count cont.

Blue Jay	294	
American Crow	100	
Black-c. Chickadee	288	
Red-br. Nuthatch	9	
White-br. Nuthatch	34	
Brown Creeper	5	(A) (E) (Q)
Golden-cr. Kinglet	13	
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	1	(O)
Hermit Thrush	1	(E)
American Robin	32	
North. Mockingbird	1	(B)
Cedar Waxwing	59	(Q)
Northern Shrike	1	(C)
European Starling	36,058	
Pine Warbler	2	(E) First time ever
Northern Cardinal	252	High; previous high 256 (1975)
Amer. Tree Sparrow	438	
Song Sparrow	26	
Swamp Sparrow	2	(C) (E)
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	231	High; previous high 236 (1976)
Dark-eyed Junco	164	
Red-w. Blackbird	4	
Rusty Blackbird	2	(E)
Common Grackle	2	(F)
Brown-h. Cowbird	48	
Purple Finch	22	(E) (F) High; previous high 25 (1982)
House Finch	193	All time high; previous high 28 (1982)
Amer. Goldfinch	95	
Evening Grosbeak	1	(G)
House Sparrow	<u>1,025</u>	
Totals:	86,834	individuals
	79	species

The compiler thanks all who contributed to the Count's fine success.

70 Louise Drive, Cheektowaga, NY 14227

NOTES

A QUEST FOR HAWKWATCH LOOKOUTS IN THE HAMBURG AREA

After the near demise of peregrine falcons, bald eagles, and ospreys over a decade ago due to their intake of pesticides the Hawk Migration Association of North America (HMANA) was formed in 1974. On the basis that all hawk species are on the top of the food chain, HMANA is attempting to determine if any of the hawk populations are being affected by ecological factors. They are trying to check hawk populations by determining their numbers during their migrations when effective numbers can be most readily ascertained.

Because hawks almost always follow migration paths which take advantage of uplifting air currents, they avoid flying over large bodies of water which are devoid of updrafts. Thus, in their northward spring migration their flights merge near and along the south shores of Lake Erie and Lake Ontario. Regular hawkwatch lookouts have been established on the south shore of Lake Ontario at Derby Hill at the southeast corner of the lake, at Braddock Bay near Rochester and at Beamer Conservation Area in Grimsby, Ontario. A lookout has been established at the western end of Lake Erie at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge near Toledo, Ohio, where the westward flights are noted. However, no regular lookout has been established on the eastern end of the lake that would note the hawks flying eastward.

Since over 90% of the hawks flying east at Braddock Bay and all the hawks flying west at Beamer go around Lake Erie in the Hamburg area, the annual numbers should be in the range of 40,000 - 60,000. Consequently, HMANA would like to establish such a lookout(s) in the Town of Hamburg to learn more about their migration patterns. The Lake Ontario lookouts are manned daily from 1 March through 31 May (30 June at Braddock Bay). Such a goal for Hamburg Lookouts depends on how many volunteers can be found to cooperate in this endeavor.

And what does this endeavor entail? The leader for the day makes out a daily report form which indicates on an hourly basis not only all the hawks observed during the hour but also the weather factors, i.e., visibility, temperature, cloud cover, wind velocity and direction, and also the general height of flight, direction of flight and number of observers. The leader should record all this data in his/her notebook and then transfer the data onto the HMANA Daily Report Form. The writer will supply, free of charge, each volunteer as many daily report forms needed as well as an instruction sheet which indicates exactly how the report form should be filled out. This is important inasmuch as thousands of such reports are to be put into computerized data each year which must follow the procedure completely and exactly to be useful.

The establishment of lookout sites should be given initial priority. Having flights above or near the site is most important. The lookout should be open, preferably elevated and having an unobstructed view in all directions. It is desirable to have rest stop facilities available if the lookout is to be covered all day. One lookout, preferably near the shore, should be designated as the primary lookout. Auxiliary lookouts should be established inland -- 2 or 3 and 5 or 6 miles

A Quest for Hawkwatch Lookouts in the Hamburg Area cont.

from the primary lookout -- far enough apart to avoid duplicate counts when adjacent lookouts are recording data. A daily report is made for each lookout when it is manned. Normally when the winds are anywhere from SW, S, SE, or E the hawk flights should be near the lake shore. When winds come in from the lake the flights will move inland.

The warmer the day, the longer the hawk flight period. In cold weather 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. should cover most flights. On warm days this may be extended from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. standard time. The following table indicates the dates covering 90% of when each species come through, in order of abundance:

Broad-winged Hawk	20 Apr. - 10 May	Abundant
Sharp-shinned Hawk	25 Mar. - 10 May	"
Red-tailed Hawk	5 Mar. - 10 May	"
Turkey Vulture	20 Mar. - 30 Apr.	"
Red-shouldered Hawk	15 Mar. - 10 Apr.	Common
Northern Harrier	15 Mar. - 15 May	Fairly Common
American Kestrel	15 Mar. - 20 Apr.	" "
Cooper's Hawk	15 Mar. - 30 Apr.	" "
Rough-legged Hawk	20 Feb. - 25 Apr.	Uncommon
Osprey	10 Apr. - 31 May	"
Goshawk	20 Feb. - 30 Apr.	" (variable)
Bald Eagle	15 Mar. - 31 May	Occasional
Golden Eagle	15 Mar. - 15 May	"
Peregrine Falcon	15 Mar. - 15 May	Rare
Merlin	25 Mar. - 15 May	"
Swainson's Hawk, Gyrfalcon		Accidental

If you are interested in participating, please contact the writer.

Walter Klabunde
4923 Creek Road
Lewiston, NY 14092
(716) 754-4424

IN MEMORIAM

The Buffalo Ornithological Society mourns the recent death of Mr. Willard F. McKale. Bill, an active Society member and longtime friend of many of us, will be greatly missed. Condolences are extended to his wife Alice, his family, and other loved ones.

=====

Bird Alert

At a recent meeting of B.O.S. some members expressed an interest in a Bird Alert program to notify participants in a telephone network of rare or unusual bird sightings as they occur. It might also be used to inform people of quickly planned special outings to see these birds. Those participants are to be willing to receive and pass on information about bird sightings by telephone on a timely basis so that all participants have the opportunity to see the bird.

Anyone interested in participating in the program or willing to act as coordinator should contact Maxine Barber at (716) 683-3061.

Breeding Bird Atlas Blockbusting Funds Available

"Blockbusting" (intensive surveying of uncovered blocks) will be urgently needed again this year to adequately cover all of the territory within our region. It has just been learned that funds will be available to compensate blockbusters for their efforts. The money, to be administered by the N.Y. State Department of Environmental Conservation, is derived from the "Return a Gift to Wildlife" feature of the N.Y.S. income tax form. Funds are also available from the B.O.S. for the same purpose.

If these funds are desired, interested persons should contact the Region 1 Atlas Coordinator, Dr. Robert Andrle, at the Buffalo Museum of Science, Humboldt Parkway, Buffalo, NY 14211, (716) 896-5200, as soon as possible.

Tifft Farm Nature Preserve to Offer Spring Programs on Birds

DUCK & WATERFOWL WALK - Saturday, 14 April 1984

Leader: Karen Geiger

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon

Geared to beginners, this program will be an introduction to duck and waterfowl identification. Life histories, including breeding habits, will also be discussed. The instructor may lead the group to other waterfront sites in addition to Tifft Farm; car pooling will be arranged. Binoculars and bird identification books are recommended.

Tifft Farm Spring Programs cont.

INTRODUCTION TO BIRD BANDING - Saturday, 23 April 1984

Leader: Karen Geiger

Time: 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Bird banding is a method of marking individual birds for scientific research. Banding may only be done by licensed bird banders who have met rigid licensing requirements. This program will demonstrate the techniques of bird banding, offering the participants an unusual opportunity to see birds at close range. Bring bird identification guides and dress warmly for this event.

Fees for these programs are:

Adult BSNS member	\$2.50
Adult non-member	\$3.50
Member's child	\$.50
Non-member's child	\$1.00

Advance registration is required. Please call the Buffalo Museum of Science at (716) 896-5200, Ext. 201.

Additionally, the following programs will be offered in May and June:

BIRDING AT TIFFT FARM AND TIMES BEACH

BIRDING FOR BEGINNERS

DAWN BIRD WALKS

BREEDING BIRD WORKSHOPS

For details see the next issue of The Prothonotary, or call the Museum.

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MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

- March 14th: "Species Report: Owls at Amherst Island." Several B.O.S.'ers visited this Canadian haven to wintering owls and other raptors. A combination of excellent photography and some literary investigations will yield an exciting program about the life histories of these elusive predators.
- March 28th: "The Dishaw Brothers." No, it's not a new criminal gang. These two gentlemen write a nature column for the Niagara Falls Gazette and are active in the Niagara Ornithological Society. They will speak to us on a birding topic gleaned from their files.
- April 11th: Wildlife Films - "Grouse Country" and "Puffins, Predators and Pirates." Published by the Canadian Broadcasting Company, these half-hour films examine the lives, antics, and struggles of two diverse species.
- April 25th: "The Peacocks of Baboquivari (Arizona)." Jonnie Fisk, a venerable birder of the Buffalo area, will return to the B.O.S. to present a program on a favorite area in Arizona and the colorful, noisy birdlife to be found there.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman, (885-0474, Buffalo, N.Y.).

FIELD TRIPS

March 25th: Oak Orchard. Leader: Bill Burch (773-3690). Meet at Transitown at 8:00 a.m. or at Cayuga Pool at 9:30.

April 8th: April Bird Count. Compiler: Tom Harper (547-9563).

April 29th: Braddock Bay for Hawks. Details forthcoming.

For further information about field trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairman (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (Printing), Shirley Wake (typing).

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

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THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY

ITHACA, N. Y. 14853

VOLUME 50

FEBRUARY 1984

APR 1 1984

NUMBER 2

THE MONTH

Snowfall was less than normal for the period but below average temperatures during mid-month made January a cold and often unpleasant experience for birds and bird-watchers alike. Following five days of cloudy and mild weather at the beginning of the month, very cold temperatures with periodic snow squalls moved into the area on January 8th and, after a brief respite on the 13th and 14th, resumed; the thermometer did not register above freezing again until January 23rd. On January 16th, a temperature reading of -10° (F) at Buffalo International Airport tied the record low for this date set in 1932. On the 20th, a deep high pressure system dubbed "the Siberian Express" by the newsmedia, pumped more bitter, cold Arctic air into Southern Canada and the Northeastern United States. There were record low temperatures of -28° (F) and -30° (F) recorded in Wellsville and the Town of Amity in Allegany County on January 21st and -27° (F) and -25° (F) in the Town of Franklinville and the City of Olean in Cattaraugus County on that date. There was no major snowfall and snow accumulation at Buffalo during January was only 13.4 inches, 11.2 inches below normal for the period. The average temperature for the month was 20.4° (F), 3° cooler than normal. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

The most dramatic illustration of the negative effect of the severe cold on the wintering bird populations in our study area occurred overnight on January 15th-16th at Niagara Falls, Ontario. The temperature plunged to -8° (F) as a new cold front caused dense fog to form over the warmer open waters of the Niagara River above the Horseshoe Falls. As the result of this fog, an estimated 2000 ducks were swept over the Falls where their plight was discovered the following morning. Most of the ducks were Common Mergansers with a few Red-breasted Mergansers, Common Goldeneyes and Canvasbacks. Many of these birds were apparently uninjured by this traumatic experience and managed to fly out of the gorge during the day, but approximately 650 ducks, still alive were left sitting on the ice bridge or swimming in a lead of open water at the base of the Falls. These hapless creatures apparently

perished from their injuries and exposure as the cold weather deepened and the ice bridge thickened, reducing the area of open water to a narrow fissure. By January 20th, only 190 Common Mergansers, four Red-breasted Mergansers, three Common Golden-eyes and a Canvasback could be counted, huddled forlornly on the ice where they remained until month's end.

With the bitter cold weather of late December continuing in January, Dunkirk Harbor on Lake Erie sheltered large numbers of waterfowl and gulls in the open waters behind its breakwalls. On January 18th, Terry Mosher, Bruce Chilton and Jeanine Flory of the Lake Erie Bird Club saw a Red-throated Loon in winter plumage diving and swimming in the Harbor. The loon's 'snake-like' profile and diagnostic upturned bill were clearly seen. Earlier, on January 6th at Dunkirk Harbor, Frances Rew saw another uncommon and irregular winter visitor to the Niagara Frontier, a Mute Swan. The swan was found swimming in the inner harbor west of the main pier. A pinkish bill with black base surrounding an incipient protuberance or knob identified it as an immature bird with the characteristically curved neck and head pointed down. On January 4th, Brad Clements of Welland, Ontario reported an adult Mute Swan with a bright orange bill edged with black and a prominent knob, swimming in the Welland River behind the water treatment plant in that city.

A wintering aggregation of Canada Geese estimated to number as high as 400 birds was reported by several observers on the Niagara River between Fort Erie and Navy Island, Ontario during January. The compiler received records of up to 95 geese at Fort Erie and a flock of 75 in the west branch of the Niagara River, seen during a field trip on the 7th. Elsewhere, Elizabeth Brooks reported a flock of 50 Canada Geese over Andover in Allegany County on January 9th and Don Clark advised that a flock of eight geese continued to winter at his sanctuary at Farmersville Station in Cattaraugus County.

The adult male Barrow's Goldeneye at Niagara Falls, Ontario now enjoying what is believed to be his eighth year as a celebrated winter resident of that city, was seen by many observers in January. Most of the observations were made in the water impoundment area just north of the rapids of the Niagara River above the Canadian Falls. During a Buffalo Audubon Society field trip to Niagara Falls, Ontario on January 28th, Wavel and Maxine Barber and others were thrilled to see an adult male Harlequin Duck swimming in the waters of the upper river directly opposite the parking lot of the Ontario Hydro Engineering Building and thereby affording even one an opportunity to get a good look at this rare, irregular winter visitor.

The Northern Harrier appears to be increasing in numbers as a permanent resident and as a winter visitor in our study area. It is not uncommon to see one or more harriers on a field trip in any section on the Lake Erie or Lake Ontario Plain and in the higher regions of the Alleghany Plateau as well. On January 6th, Bruce Duncan reported seven Northern Harriers in Haldimand County, Ontario. On that date, Duncan also saw an immature Bald Eagle standing on the ice of the Grand River near a lead of open water below the dam at Dunnville, Ontario. Local residents have since informed him that the eagle had been in the vicinity at least ten days prior to his observation and was last seen on January 14th. Bob Andrie and his party found another rare winter raptor in January, a Red-shouldered Hawk in the Town of Orangeville in Wyoming County on the 22nd.

A wintering Common Snipe was seen by Peter Yoerg on January 6th in a spring-fed marshy area at the edge of a vacant lot behind the Academy School in Williamsville. It was subsequently seen on several occasions during the month. Also present at this location during January were two Swamp Sparrows, also uncommon winter visitors here.

Both Glaucous and Iceland Gulls were reported in the Niagara River between Niagara Falls and Queenston, Ontario in January. In addition to this traditional gathering place for uncommon wintering larids, some interesting records were received from the Niagara River at the foot of Ontario Street near Riverside Park, Buffalo in January. On January 12th, an adult Lesser Black-backed Gull was seen at that location, standing on an icefloe in the Niagara River near two Greater Black-backed Gulls who afforded a convenient comparison of the characters distinguishing the two species. On the 15th, over 1000 Herring Gulls, 75 Greater Black-backed Gulls and three Glaucous Gulls were seen at this location. Also on January 15th, an adult Glaucous Gull was seen among the Herring and Ring-billed Gulls on the ice of the Grand River below the dam at Dunnville, Ontario.

Only one formal record of Snowy Owl was received by the compiler in January, that of a bird seen by Harold Axtell at the airport at St. Catharines, Ontario on January 1st. It remained at that location throughout the month. Verbal reports of two other Snowy Owls were received, one at the Niagara Falls (N.Y.) Air Force Base between January 15th and 21st and one at the Westinghouse Corp. plant in Cheektowaga on the 15th. Mention must also be made here of the record number of Great Horned Owls reported on the annual Christmas Count of the Buffalo Audubon Society on January 1st. Twenty-seven of these owls were found in a comparatively small area in southern Erie County where every woodlot of any size seemed to shelter one or a pair, as compared to only ten reported one year ago!

Two Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, one an adult and one an immature bird, visited the suet and sunflower seed feeders at the residence of Harriette and Walter Klabunde in Lewiston during January. An adult Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, seen east of Batavia in Genesee County on January 15th, was found dead two days later.

On January 7th, Elizabeth Brooks and Peter Gradoni were conducting a winter bird population census in a 41 acre section of the State Reforestation Area in the Town of Ward in Allegany County when their study was interrupted by the now familiar and unmistakable hoarse croak of a raven. Both observers scrambled down the evergreen clad hillside in which they were working, to a clearing in the trees along a stream. There they observed a large, black bird slowly flying along the edge of the Vandermark Valley. It was a corvid, larger than a crow with the characteristic wedge-shaped tail and guttural call of the Common Raven. It was the sixth time in seven years that Mrs. Brooks has found a raven in this area. Also in Allegany County, on January 11th, Doris Burton noticed a Chickadee visiting a suet feeder on her premises on John Street in the Village of Belmont which differed from the Black-capped Chickadees with which it was associated, being pinkish-chestnut in coloration on the sides and under the rump and with the top and back of the head a chestnut brown, identifying this bird as a Boreal Chickadee. Mrs. Burton subsequently saw the bird on nine days between the 14th and the 31st. It was also seen at the feeder of Mary Jordan less than a block away.

The number of American Robins in our area has increased substantially over last winter. A flock of 100 robins was in residence all month in a swampy area off of Sheridan Drive in Williamsville. A wintering Eastern Bluebird was seen by Grace O'Dell feeding on rose hips at the edge of a pasture on Bunting Road in Orchard Park on January 22nd and again on the 25th. The most unusual bird to be reported on the Buffalo Audubon Society Christmas Count on January 1st, was a Loggerhead Shrike seen by Bill Bogacki feeding on the remains of a sparrow. It is a very rare and irregular winter visitor.

Finally, the Pine Warblers, first reported from a feeder on Drummond Crescent in the Town of Fort Erie, Ontario in December, continued to be observed in that location throughout the month of January.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

* * * * *

JANUARY NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

<u>Red-throated Loon</u>	Jan.	18	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Chilton et al
Common Loon	"	5	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
Pied-billed Grebe	"	13,15	4,1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Horned Grebe	"	1,15	3,4 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
D.-cr. Cormorant	"	6	3 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
Great Blue Heron	"	1	1 East Aurora	Burch
<u>Mute Swan</u>	"	4	1 Welland, Ont.	Clements
	"	6,13,15	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Canada Goose	"	1-31	25-95 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	7	75 West Niagara River	Andrle et al
	"	9	50 Andover	Cook rep. Brooks
	"	15,22	40,30 Fort Erie, Ont.	Hess
Green-w. Teal	"	1	1 Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Potter
Northern Pintail	"	1,6	1,1 Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Potter
Redhead	"	6	40 Fort Erie, Ont.	Thills, Andrle
	"	14	1 Forest Lawn, Bflo.	Hess
Ring-necked Duck	"	2	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	McKales
Lesser Scaup	"	6	2 Niagara-on-the-Lake	Thills, Andrle
Harlequin Duck	"	29	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Barbers

Oldsquaw	Jan.	6	300 Niagara-on-the-Lake	Thills, Andrie
White-w. Scoter	"	2	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	McKales
	"	6	16 Niagara-on-the-Lake	Thills, Andrie
	"	15	4 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	"	16, 18, 21	1, 2, 1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	"	18	5 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
<u>Barrow's Goldeneye</u>	"	1, 8, 19, 28	1, 1, 1, 1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Axtell et al
	"	1, 15	1, 1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	7	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Rew et al
	"	22	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Hess
Hooded Merganser	"	8	1 Niagara River	Axtell et al (BOS)
Bald Eagle	"	6	1 Dunnville, Ont.	Duncan
			(immature bird)	
Northern Harrier	"	2	1 Town of Cambria	McKales
	"	6	7 Haldimand Co., Ont.	Duncan
	"	12	1 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna et al
	"	15	3 Dunn Twp., Ont.	Thills et al
	"	31	1 Youngstown	D'Anna et al
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	2	1 Town of Cambria	McKales
	"	7	1 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
	"	12, 13, 14, 18	1, 1, 1, 1 Town of Wales	Rosches
	"	15	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	D'Anna et al
	"	19-21	1-2 Darien Center (f)	Harper
Cooper's Hawk	"	1-31	1 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	2, 14	1, 1 Scio	Pitzrick
	"	3	1 Town of Tonawanda	Thill
	"	6, 17, 27	1, 1, 1 Darien Center (f)	Harper
	"	8, 23, 29	1, 1, 1 Town of Wales	Rosches
	"	15	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	D'Anna et al
	"	17	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Red-should. Hawk	"	22	1 Town of Orangeville	Andrie et al
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	1	1 St. Catharines, Ont.	Axtell et al
	"	12	1 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna et al
	"	15	1 Dunn Twp., Ont.	Thill et al
American Coot	"	1, 8	1, 1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell et al
	"	2	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	McKales
	"	6	28 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	"	15	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Hess
	"	15	25 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Killdeer	"	12	2 St. Catharines, Ont.	Sommerville
Common Snipe	"	16	1 Williamsville	Yoerg
Little Gull	"	1	1 Queenston, Ont.	Axtell
	"	7	1 Queenston, Ont.	Rew et al
Bonaparte's Gull	"	1	4 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna et al
	"	18	30 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
Iceland Gull	"	7	2 Adam Beck Hydro	Rew et al
	"	22	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Hess
Glaucous Gull	"	6	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Thills, Andrie
	"	7	3 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Rew et al
	"	15	1 Dunnville, Ont.	Thills et al

Vol. 50, No. 2 "January Noteworthy Records" cont.

Snowy Owl	Jan.	1	1 St. Catharines, Ont.	Axtell et al
Long-eared Owl	"	15	2 Dunn Twp., Ont.	Thills et al
Short-eared Owl	"	12	2 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna et al
	"	15	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Thills et al
Belted Kingfisher	"	1,2,14	1,1,1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	2,14	1,1 Town of Scio	Pitzrick
	"	12,17,23	1,1,1 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna et al
	"	13	1 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
	"	15	1 Orchard Park	O'Dell
	"	15	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	1	1 Niagara-on-the-Lake	Axtell et al
	"	1-31	1 Amity Lake	Adams rep. Pitzric
	"	14-19	1-2 Elma	Forsberg
	"	15	3 Iroquois NWR	McKales
	"	18	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
	"	22	1 Orchard Park	O'Dell
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	"	3,10-22	1 Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
		(immature)		
	"	10,17,22,31	1 Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
		(female)		
Northern Flicker	"	1	1 Town of Pomfret	Rew
	"	1,8	3,3 Niagara River	Axtell
	"	4	1 Town of Elma	Forsberg
	"	14,17	1,1 Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
	"	17,18	1,1 Lewiston	D'Anna, Potter
	"	18	2 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
	"	21	1 Town of Darien	Harper
	"	23	1 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	31	3 Youngstown	D'Anna et al
Common Raven	"	7	1 Town of Ward	Brooks, Gradoni
Boreal Chickadee	"	11-31	1 Belmont (f)	Burtions
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-31	2-6 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick et al
	"	1-31	2 Town of Pomfret (f)	Mosher
	"	1	2 Niagara-on-the-Lake	Axtell et al
	"	8-31	1 Darien Center (f)	Harper
	"	8	1 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
	"	29	1 Belmont	Baumgardner
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	1-31	1 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	1-31	1-3 Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell et al
	"	4	2 Alfred	Brooks
	"	7	3 Fort Erie, Ont.	Rew et al
	"	10	1 Darien Center (f)	Harper
	"	15	1 Town of Wales	Rosches
	"	22	1 Fort Erie, Ont. (f)	Hess
Eastern Bluebird	"	22,25	1 Orchard Park	O'Dell
American Robin	"	1-31	1-3 Rose Hill, Ont.	Axtell
	"	1	5 Town of Pomfret	Rew
	"	1,23	4,4 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	2,6,9	1,1,1 Lewiston	Klabundes
	"	5	6 Town of Sheldon	Rosches

Vol. 50, No. 2 "January Noteworthy Records" cont.

American Robin	Jan.	6	1 St. Catharines, Ont.	Thills, Andrle
"	"	6	2 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Thills, Andrle
"	"	6	4 Niagara-on-the-Lake	Thills, Andrle
"	"	7-25	2 Orchard Park	O'Dell
"	"	9,22	12,27 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
"	"	9	8 Fort Erie, Ont.	D'Anna, Dishau
"	"	22	9 Lewiston	McKales
"	"	29	2 Chestnut Ridge Pk.	O'Dell
"	"	30	2 Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	31	3 Youngstown	D'Anna et al
Northern Mockingbird	"	1,8	1,1 Adam Beck Hydro	Axtell et al
"	"	2	1 Lewiston	McKales
"	"	7	1 Queenston, Ont.	Rew
"	"	12	1 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna et al
"	"	22	2 Town of Cambria	McKales
"	"	22	1 Town of Pendleton	McKales
"	"	31	1 Youngstown	D'Anna et al
Brown Thrasher	"	9	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	D'Anna, Dishau
Northern Shrike	"	1	1 Queenston, Ont.	Axtell et al
"	"	6	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Thills, Andrle
Loggerhead Shrike	"	1	1 Town of Aurora	Bogacki, Becker
"	"	1,10,25,27	1,1,1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzricks
"	"	31	2 Youngstown	D'Anna et al
Pine Warbler	"	1,8	1,1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell et al
"	"	22	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Hess
Amer. Tree Sparrow	"	10-28	66-77 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	"	22	75 Town of Cambria	McKales
Song Sparrow	"	1-31	2 Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell et al
"	"	1,29	1,1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
"	"	1-14	1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	2	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Rew
"	"	6-31	1 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	"	7	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Rew
"	"	9,13,25,26	2,1,2,2 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
"	"	17-24	2 Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	22	1 Fort Erie, Ont. (f)	Hess
"	"	22	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Swamp Sparrow	"	6	1 Fredonia	Mosher
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	"	1-31	3 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
"	"	1-31	2 Darien Center (f)	Harper
"	"	1-31	6 Orchard Park	Saville
"	"	1-31	75-104 Rose Hill, Ont.	Axtell
"	"	1-31	1-4 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
"	"	1,2	1,1 Scio	Baumgardner
"	"	2,5	5,1 Scio	Pitzrick
Wh.-cr. Sparrow	"	1	1 St. Catharines, Ont.	Axtell et al
Snow Bunting	"	15	30 Town of Java	Harper
"	"	18	20 Youngstown	D'Anna, Harper
"	"	22	500 Wyoming County	Andrle et al
"	"	28	300 Town of Wilson	Klabundes
"	"	31	150 Town of Pomfret	Mosher

Red-w. Blackbird	Jan.	1,2,28	2,2,3	Scio	Baumgardner
"	"	2,14	3,1	Scio	Pitzrick
"	"	3	2	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	27	1	Town of Tonawanda	Ness
Common Grackle	"	1-31	1	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	"	4-20	1	Eggertsville	McKales
"	"	24,30	1	Depew (f)	Barbers
Brown-h. Cowbird	"	1-31	15-20	Kenmore (f)	Thill
"	"	1-31	10-45	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
"	"	2,5,14	5,2,9	Scio	Pitzrick
"	"	2	4	Scio	Baumgardner
House Finch	"	2,5	100,145	Scio	Pitzrick
"	"	10	130	Depew	Barbers
Pine Siskin	"	1-8	1	Darien Center (f)	Harper
Amer. Goldfinch	"	1-31	50-70	Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
"	"	1-31	50	Darien Center (f)	Harper
Evening Grosbeak	"	1-30	50-100	Town of Wales	Rosches
"	"	1-31	10-34	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	"	1-31	10-50	Darien Center (f)	Harper
"	"	1-31	1-27	Orchard Park	Saville
"	"	1-31	41	Alfred	Brooks
"	"	1	6	Niagara-on-the-Lake	Axtell et al
"	"	2,11	3,1	Scio	Baumgardner
"	"	5	55	Scio	Pitzrick
"	"	14	17	Chestnut Ridge Pk.	O'Dell
"	"	15	30	Orchard Park	O'Dell
"	"	28	1	Belmont	Baumgardner

Other species seen
in January:

Amer. Black Duck, Mallard, Gadwall, American Wigeon, Canvasback, Greater Scaup, Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Common Merganser, Red-breasted Merganser, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Ring-n. Pheasant, Ruffed Grouse, Wild Turkey, Ring-billed Gull, Herring Gull, Gr. Black-b. Gull, Eastern Screech-Owl, Great Horned Owl, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Horned Lark, Blue Jay, American Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, White-br. Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Golden-cr. Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, European Starling, Northern Cardinal, Dark-eyed Junco, Purple Finch, House Sparrow.

Total species, subspecies and hybrids. 98

* * * * *

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

Field Trip Along the Niagara River, January 8, 1984

The caravan, which consisted of eleven vehicles early in this trip, accumulated a few additional cars of birders along the way. The many pairs of eyes were assurance that few birds would escape being spotted during the day.

At the beginning and end of the trip visits were made to the busy feeding stations in the yard of Ray Shore on Drummond Crescent near Old Fort Erie. Both of the (adult-plumaged) Pine Warblers that have been regular visitors there for several weeks were seen, along with Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-throated and Song Sparrows, a Sharp-shinned Hawk, and also of course the more usual feeding-station birds.

The several hundred ducks in the flock at the Fort Erie marsh provided, as always, a challenge for the birders to make certain not to miss one or several birds of special interest that may be with the flock. The most unexpected birds present were two Canada Geese and a Coot.

Fourteen species of ducks were observed on this trip along the Canadian side of the "upper river." These included the always-prized finding of the male Barrow's Goldeneye.

The more than a week-old "ice budge" in the gorge below the falls had very greatly reduced the number of gulls in that vicinity. At the Sir Adam Beck Hydro Plant, however, there was a first-winter Iceland Gull, a probable second-winter hybrid Thayer's x Iceland, and also a typical second-winter Thayer's Gull for comparison.

From Old Fort Erie along the river, passing 3 Red-tails, 3 Kestrels, 2 Glaucous Gulls and 3 Flickers on this route to the gulls and the usual Mockingbird at the Adam Beck Plant, the trip produced 42 species of birds.

Trip Leader: Harold H. Axtell

NOTES FROM THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 1984 B.O.S. MEETINGS

939th Meeting, January 11, 1984:

Membership: Fred Vanderbles was accepted for Associate Membership and Marion Dornhoffer was accepted for Active Membership.

Robert Andrie reported that Great Horned Owls are on nesting territory in December and can be counted on blocks for the Breeding Bird Atlas survey.

The membership was encouraged to make more reports to Dial-A-Bird.

Marc Chelemer initiated a discussion on participation by the membership in the activities of the Society. He requested volunteers to help with the programs.

939th Meeting, January 11, 1984 cont.

Bill Vaughn asked the Society to consider contributing to the awards made by the Federation of N.Y. State Bird Clubs to young persons who have made a contribution to birding or ornithology. Fran Rew reported that this year's awards went to two 18 year olds and an older couple. Details of how the B.O.S. would set up a fund and make contributions would have to be worked out.

It was reported that the Ontario Peninsula has a Hot Line for bird sightings. A request was made two years ago to set up a similar grapevine in the Western N.Y. area but got no response from the Society.

Bill Bogacki gave the results of the 55th Christmas Count which included Pine Warblers at Fort Erie.

Program: Reports were given of the best birding sites in three of the B.O.S. territories. Walt & Harriette Klabunde reported on Area 3, Bob Brock on Area 4, and Dick Christensen on Area 5.

940th Meeting, January 25, 1984:

Walt Klabunde announced that he would provide instructions and report forms for anyone willing to watch for hawks this spring along the south shore of Lake Erie.

Bob Klips asked for a third volunteer to complete the Editorial Board of The Prothonotary.

Robert Andrie reported that the first four years of data for the Breeding Bird Atlas are being finalized. The Date Guide and Checklist are at the printers and should be completed shortly.

Program: Dr. Gerry Leubner of the Genesee Ornithological Society showed 100 slides of bird prints from reports made by the U.S. Army Expedition in 1853-1856 to explore routes to the Pacific for the Pacific Railroad.

After the program, the plight of the waterfowl, mostly Common Mergansers, that went over Niagara Falls was discussed. Dr. Axtell and Bill Burch reported seeing some 200 to 300 ducks in the gorge, mostly on the ice. It was difficult to determine how many were still alive.

Bird Reports: A Glaucous Gull and a Lesser Black-backed Gull at the foot of Ontario Street. Also, it was reported that 9 species of Owls have been seen on Amherst Island, which is west of Kingston on the north shore of Lake Ontario.

Submitted by,
Julia Wells, Secretary

Welcome to the following new Associate Members:

Dr. Edward Crohn
68 Maple Court
Amherst, NY 14226
(716) 839-2259

Fred Vanderbles
4826 N. Harlem Road
Buffalo, NY 14226
(716) 839-0975

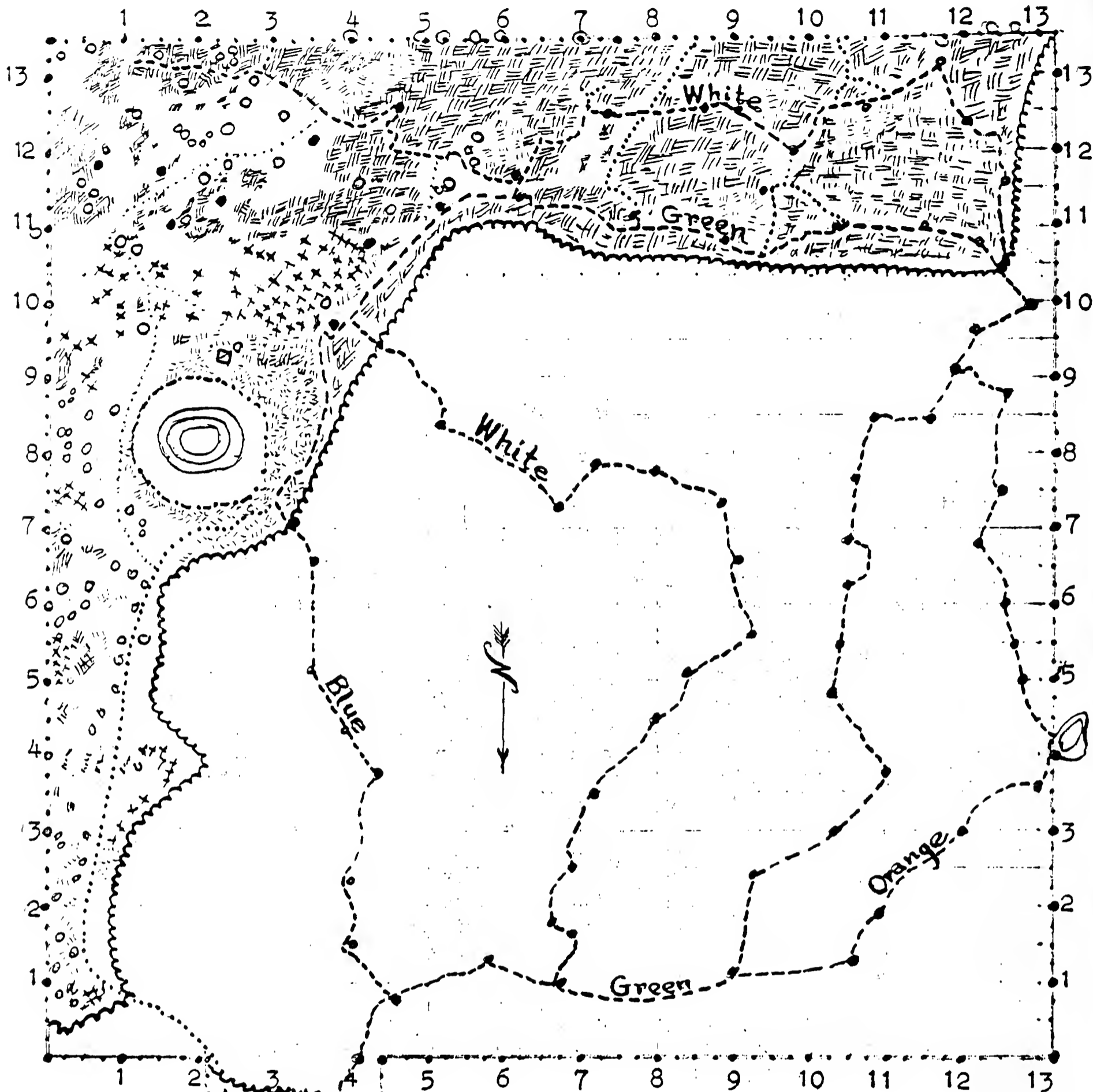
Buffalo Ornithological Society Wildlife Refuge

The entrance to the B.O.S. Wildlife Refuge is located at 3030 Love Road on Grand Island which is about 2- $\frac{1}{4}$ miles west of Beaver Island Parkway or $\frac{3}{4}$ mile east of West River Road. The property consists of a 30 foot right of way for the first 600 feet which becomes 200 feet wide for the next 600 feet leading to the main body of the refuge which is roughly a quarter mile square. The total area is approximately 44 acres and is marked, except at the entrance, by a single-strand wire fence held up on steel posts every 25 feet around the entire perimeter.

The accompanying diagram of the refuge shows most of the significant details except the first 500 feet of the 30 foot right of way. For orientation purposes, the refuge boundaries are marked with coordinate markers in 100 foot units. The northeast corner of the primary square is used as the reference point for both N-S and E-W coordinates. Not only are the boundary fences so labeled, but all marked trails are also marked at strategic locations. The coordinates show first the N-S coordinate in 100 foot units followed by the E-W coordinate. The labels are $\frac{3}{8}$ " x $1\frac{1}{4}$ " red plastic labeling tape stuck on a $\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ " aluminum strip wired to the fence or nailed to a tree at eye level. As of this writing, many of the coordinate labels are missing due to weathering or tree growth, but will be replaced. They are essential in describing location of a bird nest for repeat visits in nesting surveys. In the past this was the primary purpose of the refuge. During several years over 100 nests were recorded per season including thirty species plus eight others, mostly hole nesters, whose nests were not located.

Other pertinent data on the refuge include: latitude $42^{\circ}-59'$; longitude $79^{\circ}-00'$; elevation 590' - 605' above sea level. It is located in B.O.S. Section 9 and New York State Breeding Bird Atlas Block 1676B. The total length of available trails is $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles.

Walter Klabunde



B.O.S. WILDLIFE REFUGE

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----|
| boundary fence | • • • • • | thicket | |
| coordinate markers | • • | tree | o o |
| marked trail | - - - - - | evergreen | * * |
| unmarked path | • • • • • | pond | |
| woods boundary | ~~~~~ | | |

NOTES

Tifft Farm Nature Preserve Offers Spring Programs on Birds

The following educational programs on birds and birding are being offered during May and June. April programs are described in the January issue of The Prothonotary.

BIRDING AT TIFFT FARM & TIMES BEACH - Saturday, 5 May 1984

Leader: Dr. Robert Andrie

Time: 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.

This is a bird walk to study spring migrants and birds returning to their summer residences at Tifft Farm and Times Beach, along the western shore of Lake Erie. A large number and variety of birds annually pass through this area in May, as they return from their southern wintering sites. Bring binoculars and dress for possible wet and cold weather. Group will meet in the Tifft Farm parking lot.

Note: Persons 12 years and older only.

BIRDING FOR BEGINNERS - Saturday, 19 May 1984

Leader: Wilma Csont

Time: 9 - 11:00 a.m.

What is that bird? Learn how field marks will help you identify the birds you will see this spring. Study skins will also be used to help and observe these markings at close range. After this, a bird walk will give you an opportunity to practice your new skills. Bring binoculars and bird identification books if you have any.

DAWN BIRD WALKS - Thursday, 10 May AND Tuesday, 15 May 1984

Leader: Marcya Foster

Time: 5:30 - 7:30 a.m.

These early morning walks will emphasize the identification of bird songs and calls - a method often underutilized in the field identification of birds. They will help answer the question: What bird makes that sound? Tifft Farm Nature Preserve is known for the high numbers and diversity of birds which stop there during the spring and fall migrations. These walks are timed to coincide with the annual average peak abundance of migrating warblers. Be dressed for cold and wet weather and bring binoculars.

Note: This activity is designed primarily for an adult audience.

Fees:	Per Event	Both Dates
Member	\$2.50	\$ 4.00
Non-member	\$3.50	\$ 6.00

Tifft Farm Spring Programs cont.

BREEDING BIRD WORKSHOP - Wednesdays, June 6, 13, 20 and 27

Leader: Marcy Foster

Time: 5:30 - 8:00 a.m.

Spring brings both migrating and breeding birds back to Tifft Farm. Migrating birds are passing through, while the breeding birds stay here to nest. This workshop will focus on the nesting, songs and habitat utilization of marsh and perching birds that breed at Tifft Farm. Each week different birds will be studied. Participants are encouraged to come to all four sessions or as many of the dates as they choose. Bring binoculars and dress for the chilly early morning temperatures anticipated. In the event of severe weather conditions on any of the scheduled dates above, every attempt will be made to reschedule class dates.

Note: This activity is designed primarily for an adult audience participation.

Fees:	Per Event	All Four Sessions
Member	\$2.50	\$ 8.00
Non-member	\$3.50	\$11.00

Unless otherwise designated, fees for the listed programs are:

Adult members	\$2.50
Adult non-members	\$3.50
Member's child (under 18 years)	\$.50
Non-member's child	\$1.00

Advance registration is required. Please call the Buffalo Museum of Science at (716) 896-5200, Ext. 201.

Directions to Tifft Farm

From the Southtowns and heading towards downtown Buffalo on Route 5 East, take the first Fuhrmann Blvd. exit as you come off the Father Baker Bridge. You will see the Tifft Farm sign as you bear to the right of the road.

From the Northtowns and downtown Buffalo, take Route 5 West (Skyway) and take the second Fuhrmann Blvd. exit southbound, turning left at South Service Drive (which will take you under the elevated portion of Route 5) and follow the road to the Tifft Farm driveway entrance.

New B.O.S. Membership Roster Being Prepared

A new membership roster is currently being compiled, which will be printed and sent to all members. If you have an address change (compare with The Prothonotary mailing label) or have changed your telephone number recently, please let us know. Send this information to William Townsend, Treasurer (31 Brenon Road, N. Tonawanda, NY 14120) or Maxine Barber (45 Beverly Drive, Depew, NY 14043).

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's Clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

- March 28th: Wildlife Films - "Grouse Country" and "Puffins, Predators and Pirates." Published by the Canadian Broadcasting Company, these half-hour films examine the lives, antics, and struggles of two diverse species.
- April 11th: "The Dishaw Brothers." No, it's not a new criminal gang. These two gentlemen write a nature column for the Niagara Falls Gazette, and are active in the Niagara Ornithological Society. They will speak to us on a birding topic gleaned from their files.
- April 25th: "The Peacocks of Baboquivari (Arizona)." Jonnie Fisk, a venerable birder of the Buffalo area, will return to the B.O.S. to present a program on a favorite area in Arizona and the colorful, noisy birdlife to be found there.
- May 9th: Review of April Count. "Where the Birds Are." Several members will discuss prime breeding areas within certain sections of B.O.S. territory.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman, (885-0474, Buffalo, N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

- April 8th: April Bird Count. Compiler: Tom Harper (547-9563).
- April 29th: Braddock Bay for Hawks. Details forthcoming.

For further information about field trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairman (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Shirley Wake (typing).
Editorial Board: Marion Dornhoffer, Bradley Lown,
Julia Wells

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

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THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 50

MARCH 1984

NUMBER 3

THE MONTH

February was a month of contrasts which began with a low temperature reading of 1° (F) on the first and saw the thermometer soar to record highs at Buffalo of 61° (F) on the 13th and 62° (F) on the 23rd during an abnormally warm 15 day period from the 9th through that date. The "pseudo-spring," to quote Bruce Duncan's apt phrase, reversed the pattern of severe cold weather which had characterized the winter of 1983-84, melting the snow cover and bringing many local streams and rivers to flood crest before the Jet Stream, which had been far to the north of its usual track, capriciously reversed itself again on February 25th. A deep low pressure system accompanied by high winds and heavy snow moved into the region on February 27th. Fifteen inches of snow brought by this storm system combined with heavy squalls over Lake Erie and Lake Ontario to dump between 24 and 30 inches of snow on Buffalo and other communities along those shores to end the month on a decidedly wintry note and dash the euphoria which had gripped our winter-weary field observers. The average temperature for the month was 38.8° (F), 14.3° above the norm and the warmest for February since the inception of record keeping at Buffalo in 1871! Snowfall totaled 32.5 inches, 28.3 inches of which fell during the blizzard of February 27th-28th. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

With the arrival of the unseasonably warm weather in February, reports of exceptionally early spring migrants were received from all areas in our region. Also worthy of mention in this regard are the observations of several contributors concerning the dramatic decline in feeding station visitation from February 11th until the advent of the heavy snow and high winds on the 28th. Bob Sommerville of Fort Erie provided a graphic illustration of this decline. He had enjoyed unprecedented numbers of Blue Jays at his feeders in early February with counts of 56 and 65 birds on the 1st and 2nd. The numbers dwindled to none by February 10th and no Jays were seen again until the 29th when nine reappeared after the heavy snowfall of the

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previous two days. In the meantime, portents of spring were evident everywhere. Stephen Eaton reported a male Ruffed Grouse in strut posture chasing two hens behind his home on Ten Mile Run Road in the Town of Allegany in Cattaraugus County and Elizabeth Brooks heard a Song Sparrow in full song on February 23rd.

Donald Endres of Basom reported the first migrant Tundra Swans which arrived at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on February 19th. Several more flocks made their appearance on the 20th, a prelude to the enormous flight of these birds passing through the region on the 23rd which Robert Sundell estimates to have exceeded 1600 swans in Chautauqua County; he counted 170 swans in three flocks over Falconer on that date while Robert Andrie and Richard Byron saw 22 on the Niagara River with an additional 55 in a flock flying overhead. The first migrant Canada Geese returned in large numbers on February 19th when Tim Baird of Salamanca counted 147 over Allegany State Park. Large flocks of 125 over Scio on the 20th, 500 in the Town of Allegany on the 21st and 360 in the Town of Randolph on the 26th were also reported among the many records received by the compiler. Terry Mosher found a very early white phase Snow Goose in Dunkirk Harbor on February 16th; the bird was associated with a wintering flock of Canada Geese and remained there most of the month. On February 21st, Steve Eaton saw two blue phase Snow Geese among 500 Canada Geese in a quarry pond of a gravel pit in the Town of Allegany and on the 23rd, Donald Endres found four among 18,000 Canada Geese at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge.

Other indicators of the migratory activity associated with the warm weather in February include a dramatic increase in the number of Rough-legged Hawks wandering northward through our study area and an estimated 5000 male Red-winged Blackbirds observed by Bruce Duncan flocking in the marshes of the Grand River at Dunnville, Ontario on the 22nd.

Other interesting records received in February include another interesting longevity record reported by Elizabeth Brooks from among the "repeats" at her banding station in the Town of Alfred in Allegany County in February. A Downy Woodpecker was recovered which was first banded by her on November 13th, 1975 and which she estimates is now at least ten years old! (Band #1181-26569). The Boreal Chickadee reported by Doris and Lou Burton as a regular visitor to their feeder in the Village of Belmont in Allegany County in January, was seen daily at that location in February until the 26th. Finally, an "Oregon Type" Dark-eyed Junco of the race Junco hyemalis oregonus regularly visited a feeder at a residence on the Dailey Hill Road in the Village of Kennedy in Chautauqua County between February 20th and the end of the month where it was seen by Bob Sundell on the 22nd.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

* * * * *

FEBRUARY NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
 F - Indicates first record for the migration.
 L - Indicates last record for the migration.
 (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Great Blue Heron	Feb.	4	1 La Salle Pk., Bflo.	Hess
*Tundra Swan	"	1	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	19 F, 23	8, 15 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	20, 21	4, 15 Town of Allegany	Eaton
	"	22	24 over Welland, Ont.	Campbell
	"	23	275 Mayville	Mosher
	"	23	450 Amity Lake	Pitzrick,
			Klingensmith	
	"	23	77 Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrie, Byron
	"	23	175 over Pinehurst	Zebehazy
	"	23	170 over Falconer	Sundell
	"	26	22 Town of Randolph	Rew
*Snow Goose	"	16 F	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	"	17, 23, 24	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
		(white morph)		
	"	23	4 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Canada Goose	"	3, 11, 12	190, 170, 208 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	5	78 Niagara River	Andrie et al
	"	11	28 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	"	13	198 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	14	3 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
		(wintering birds)		
	"	19 F, 27	20, 30 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	19 F, 20	20 Farmersville	D. Clark
	"	19 F	29 Town of Poland	Rew
	"	19 F	30 over Amherst	Hess
	"	19 F, 23	22, 20 over Darien Center	Harper
	"	19 F	147 Allegany State Pk.	Baird
	"	20	34 Arcade	D. Clark
	"	20	125 Scio	Pitzrick
	"	21	90 Farmersville	D. Clark
	"	21	500 Town of Allegany	Eaton
	"	24	18,000 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	26	360 Town of Randolph	Rew
	"	26	200 Niagara River	Hess
*Wood Duck	"	26 F	2 Town of Randolph	Rew

Black Duck	Feb.	5 F-29	8-12 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	19	23 Town of Poland	Rew
Mallard	"	13 F	24 Farmersville	D. Clark
"	"	19	22 Red Bird	Rew
Northern Pintail	"	19 F	25 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	24	25 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	26	54 Town of Randolph	Rew
*Gadwall	"	24	7 Dunkirk	Mosher
American Wigeon	"	21 F	6 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Redhead	"	10	27 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
Harlequin Duck	"	3	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	O'Dell
"	"	5	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al
White-w. Scoter	"	10	4 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
Common Goldeneye	"	21 F	7 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	21 F	1 Town of Allegany	Eaton
"	"	22	2 Salamanca	Baird
Common Merganser	"	21 F	20 Town of Allegany	Eaton
"	"	24	2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Northern Harrier	"	19 F	1 Youngstown	Klabundes et al
"	"	19	1 Wilson	(BOS) Klabundes et al
"	"	22	3 Port Maitland, Ont.	(BOS) Duncan
"	"	23	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	1,7,21	1,1,1 Town of Wales	Rosches
"	"	7	1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	12	1 Town of Allegany	Eaton
"	"	22	1 Darien Center	Harper
Cooper's Hawk	"	4	1 Town of Darien	Harper
"	"	10	1 Town of Amherst	D'Anna
"	"	24	1 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	26	1 Orchard Park	Saville
"	"	26,27	1 Belmont	Burtons
Red-tailed Hawk	"	23	9 over Pinehurst	Rew
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	18	2 Kent Switch	Rew
"	"	18	2 South Dayton	Rew
"	"	19	1 Ransomville	Klabunde et al
"	"	19	1 Town of Wilson	(BOS) Klabunde et al
"	"	19	1 Iroquois NWR	(BOS) Seamans
"	"	21	1 Town of Aurora	Zebchazy
"	"	26	1 Town of Salamanca	Baird
Ruffed Grouse	"	19,24	1,1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Killdeer	"	19 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	19 F	1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	19 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Seamans
"	"	19 F	3 North Boston	O'Dell
"	"	24	1 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	24	2 Town of Pomfret	Mosher

Little Gull	Feb.	5	3	Queenston, Ont.	Andrle et al
Glaucous Gull	"	5	8	Lower Niagara River	Andrle et al
Snowy Owl	"	16	1	Town of Wheatfield	Burch
Long-eared Owl	"	18	1	Cayuga, Ont.	Duncan
Short-eared Owl	"	10	1	Town of Sheldon	Rosche
	"	22	2	Town of Sheldon	Zebehazy
	"	22	7	Port Maitland, Ont.	Duncan
*Saw-whet Owl	"	18	2	Cayuga, Ont.	Duncan
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	1-29	2	Town of Batavia (f)	Seamans
	"	3,17,22	1,1,1	Belmont	Burtons
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	"	9	1	Lewiston	Klabundes
Northern Flicker	"	8	1	Buffalo	O'Dell
	"	10	5	Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	1-29	2	Orchard Park	Saville
	"	3	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	O'Dell
	"	12,19	1,1	Town of Wales	Rosche
Blue Jay	"	1,2	56,65	Fort Erie, Ont. (f)	Sommerville
Boreal Chickadee	"	1-26	1	Belmont (f)	Burtons
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-29	2	Town of Pomfret (f)	Mosher
	"	1-29	2	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	1-4	1	Darien Center (f)	Harper
	"	13,15	1,1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	24	1	Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
*Winter Wren	"	11	1	Grand Island	O'Dell
*Carolina Wren	"	5	1	Orchard Park	Andrle, Byron
	"	14	1	Fredonia	Mosher, Jones
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	2,9	1,2	Alfred	Brooks
	"	10	1	Belmont	Burtons
Eastern Bluebird	"	9	1	Orchard Park	O'Dell
American Robin	"	5	21	East Aurora	Andrle, Gregory
	"	7	13	Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	10,17	8,5	Alfred	Brooks
	"	16	2	Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	19	25	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	23	30	Pinehurst	Zebehazy
	"	24,27,28	1,19,20	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	25,26	8,4	Salamanca	Baird
	"	25	2	Town of Angelica	Burtons, Jordan
	"	25	1	Town of Amity	Burtons, Jordan
	"	25	1	Belmont	Burtons
Northern Mockingbird	"	5	1	Niagara-on-the-Lake	Andrle et al
	"	17,18	1,1	Youngstown	Klabundes
	"	17,18	1,1	Lewiston	Klabundes
Cedar Waxwing	"	9-19	20-200	Town of Wales	Rosche
Northern Shrike	"	11	1	Lewiston	D'Anna et al
	"	19	1	Allegany State Pk.	Baird
	"	23	1	Town of Sheldon	Harper
Song Sparrow	"	1-29	1	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzricks
	"	1-27	2	Belmont	Burtons
	"	23 F	1	Alfred	Brooks

Song Sparrow	Feb.	25-29	1 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
(cont.)	"	27	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	27-29	2 Belmont	Burtons
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	"	1-29	6 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	1-29	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	1-29	4-6 Belmont	Burtons
	"	1-27	2 Farmersville	D. Clark
	"	1-8	2 Darien Center (f)	Harper
	"	2	3 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	10	1 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
	"	11	2 Grand Island	O'Dell
	"	22	2 Grand Island	O'Dell
	"	27-29	1 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
Wh.-cr. Sparrow	"	16	1 Niagara Falls (f)	D'Anna et al
Snow Bunting	"	3	30 Town of Angelica	Burtons, Jordan
	"	12	1200 East Shelby	Endres
	"	19	50 Town of Wilson	Klabundes et al (BOS)
Red-wing. Blackbird	"	16 F	5 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
	"	17	100 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	17	21 Grand Island	Burch
	"	17	3 Orchard Park	O'Dell
	"	22	5000 Dunnville, Ont.	Duncan
	"	23	2200 Pinehurst	Rew
	"	23	5300 over Pinehurst	Zebehazy
*Eastern Meadowlark	"	18 F	2 Town of Stockton	Rew
	"	23	9 Pinehurst	Rew
	"	25	2 Town of Angelica	Burtons, Jordan
*Rusty Blackbird	"	17 F	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	18	3 Town of Portland	Rew
	"	28	1 Town of Wheatfield	Potter
Common Grackle	"	6,15 F	1,1 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	"	15 F	1 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
	"	17	200 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	21	200 Kennedy	Sundell
	"	23	500 over Pinehurst	Zebehazy
	"	23	320 Pinehurst	Rew
Brown-h. Cowbird	"	18 F	30 Town of Sheridan	Mosher, Sundell
	"	19	1 Town of Wilson	Klabundes et al (BOS)
	"	23	48 Pinehurst	Rew
Pine Siskin	"	24	1 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
Evening Grosbeak	"	1-29	1-25 Farmersville	D. Clark
	"	1-29	5-150 Town of Wales (f)	Rosches
	"	1-29	2-17 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	1-29	15-25 Belmont	Burtons
	"	5,19	1,20 Allegany State Pk.	Baird
	"	28,29	3 Darien Center (f)	Harper

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.	98
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue.	<u>9</u>
Total for year	107

ERRATUM

Prothonotary, vol. 50:2, page 25:

Loggerhead Shrike Jan. 1 1 Town of Aurora Bogacki, Becker

-- should be placed after the next two records, which refer
to Northern Shrike

* * * * *

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

NOTES FROM THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 1984 B.O.S. MEETINGS

941st Meeting, February 8th:

Membership: Charles and Barbara Halverson were accepted for Associate Membership.

Bob Klips announced that the The Prothonotary Editorial Board is now complete, with Marion Dornhoffer most recently joining. With Marion, Brad Lown and Julia Wells, we now have 3 members as required by the Constitution.

Robert Andrie reported on the owls that have been seen on Amherst Island near Kingston, Ontario. Bill Burch coordinated the car pool to the area for the upcoming weekend of February 11-12.

Wavel Barber read a letter from the Museum Director thanking us for the \$100 contribution for the construction of club equipment carts.

Most of the members present volunteered to help with a new Bird Alert Hot Line.

Program: Wayne Gall, Administrator of Tiffet Farm Nature Preserve, spoke on the history and natural ecology of the site.

Local bird sightings included Short-eared Owls on Grand Island, Snow Buntings at Beaver Meadow, a Harlequin Duck at Niagara Falls, Killiwakes, Lesser Black-backed Gulls and White-winged Scoters. The Pine Warblers are still at Ft. Erie. Mike Turisk showed us Screech-Owl pellets.

A tribute was paid to Citation Member Bill McKale, who recently passed away.

NOTES FROM THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 1984 B.O.S. MEETINGS cont.

942nd Meeting, February 22nd:

Program: "Where the Birds Are (Part 2)." Covered were Section 6 by Ed Williams, Section 7 by Art Schafner and Section 8 by Marc Chelemer.

Walt Klabunde reported on the upcoming 1986 Annual Meeting of the N.Y.S. Federation of Bird Clubs, to be held in Buffalo. At least 20 committees will be needed by B.O.S. to host the meeting.

Marc Chelemer announced an upcoming brainstorming session at the next meeting to find topics for programs. Several upcoming activities, including the 55th Anniversary Dinner to be held in the fall of this year, were mentioned. Some programs suggestions which have been received were noted.

Wavel Barber announced the creation of a Waterfront Planning Board for the City of Buffalo to set plans for the development of the area from Tifft Farm to Vulcan Street. To voice opinions write Gail Johnstone, Director of Planning, Room 313 City Hall, Buffalo, NY 14202. Alexandra Cukan of the Sierra Club can answer questions: phone 836-6372.

Hawks, Owls, Turkeys, Pintails and Swans were among the many bird sightings as the spring migrations get underway.

Submitted by,

Julia Wells, Secretary

Fabulous Amherst Island Owl Trip, February 11-12, 1984

Seventeen B.O.S. birders will long remember the excitement of seeing six species of owl (including four Great Gray Owls) as well as hearing the song of Northern Shrikes and watching Rough-legged Hawks seven at a time.

Upon learning that Ontario was having a better-than-average influx of raptors (but not as good as the 1978-79 invasion) a trip was organized to the center of the activity. This was Amherst Island near Kingston at the east end of Lake Ontario. By way of Canada, it was 250 miles or 4-1/2 hours from Grand Island, New York, to the Amherst Island ferry landing just east of Bath, Ontario, at the foot of Highway 133. The first business there however was to secure motel rooms which were plentiful on Highway 2 about 15 miles east toward Kingston. Then we took the 1:30 p.m. ferry -- it leaves hourly on the half hour -- for the 20-minute trip. The channel was heavily iced but a passage is kept open by compressed air bubbling from a submerged pipe plus the ice-breaking effort of the tough little (16-car) ferry boat. There were a dozen dead voles seen on the ice and soon a Rough-legged Hawk appeared nearby and grabbed a live one, giving us, as David Bigelow's "Naturally" column in the Buffalo News put it, "the first of many dramatic sights."

Amherst Island cont.

The Island is about 3 x 10 miles in size and sparsely populated. The village has a general store and 2 dozen houses. The main occupations are operating the ferry boat and raising beef cattle on small farms. The flat terrain is mostly open meadows with some cornfields; ideal meadow vole country. Scattered woodlands consisted of mature cedar groves near the water and mixed cedar deciduous woods inland, both being good owl roosting sites.

Except for intermittent fog in the morning, the weather was good with the temperature around 30°F and little wind. This made for pleasant birding but a heavily overcast sky gave dull scenic photographs. The owl pictures, taken at distances of 8 to 20 feet, were an exposure-guessing challenge for the several photographers. The results were shown at the March 14 B.O.S. meeting and were worth the effort.

The first of the two "hot spots" was 2.4 miles east of the general store along the shore road, easily recognized by a dozen parked cars. A 3/4 mile trek along a farm lane to the woods was made easier by the thousands of foot steps which had packed the 12-inch snow layer. A Snowy Owl sat on the next fence row, ignoring us, and occasionally swooping down for a mouse. The open deciduous woods had clumps of 2 to 10 small cedar trees, and in these we saw 21 Saw Whet Owls at about 12-foot distance, four being in one clump. The owls moved very little during the day and the location of each bird was passed on from person to person, there being about 25 other birders in the woods. Bob Brock commented later that it wasn't until Sunday afternoon that our group was allowed to find an owl on our own. The same woods produced the much-photographed Barred Owl and a Great Horned Owl, both in deciduous trees. Small birds were absent.

Further along the shore road, we found 30 Snow Buntings and 9 Horned Larks as well as numerous foraging Rough-legged Hawks. Bob Brock pointed out the mature hardwood grove where the Great Gray Owls had been found in '79, but not this year.

Sunday morning we sought the Great Gray Owls on the mainland about 15 miles from Amherst Island. These were being found on the 3-mile road to Varty Lake, running westward out of Colebrook. Our first stop was for a Northern Shrike, perched and singing a haunting "medley of musical and harsh notes somewhat like a thrasher" as Bob Andrie put it. Few of us had heard this song since Shrikes are silent when wintering in Western New York.

The four Great Gray Owls were 100-200 yards from the road, perched in dead trees ("snags"). They were tolerant of our caravan and the sedan of Ontario birders ahead (!) of us. One distant owl gave a great display by gliding toward the group to within 50 yards and dropping to grab a vole which now was running frantically. The owl flew to a nearby snag and devoured the vole in two gulps. When perched in the open, these owls loom large and are highly visible, but when sitting on a limb at the edge of a hardwood forest, as one was, they blend in well and could be overlooked on an overcast day, such as we experienced. These owls, diurnal feeders like other far-northern ones, are more approachable late in the day when they are well fed.

Amherst Island cont.

On Sunday afternoon, the Island woodlot was again searched for the Boreal Owl. Although reported a week before it eluded all searchers this weekend.

The second "hot spot" on the Island is a cedar woods behind a small red church, long unused, located 1.8 miles west of the general store along the shore road. This is an alternate sight for the Boreal Owl. Our group quickly located there a Barred Owl and a Long-eared Owl as well as many pellets both large and small beneath the trees. But no small owls were seen. One wonders how many owls lurk in woods on the Island other than the two much-visited ones, but probably all the spots have been checked out by local experts who have the time to do so. Nevertheless, we met a fisherman who recalled walking on the ice near the shore during the invasion year and seeing 40 Saw-whet Owls in one clump of cedars, looking like Christmas tree ornaments. Could some have been there this year?

By now time was running out and we were unable to examine the south-end fields where groups of Snowy and Short-eared Owls were reported. We caught the 4:00 p.m. ferry reluctantly and began the long drive home. The writer, with four B.O.S. friends did return to Amherst Island in a month to retake his (under-exposed) photos and search for the Boreal Owl, but that is another story.

The 30 species found were as follows: 21 Saw-whet, 4 Great Gray, 2 Snowy, 2 Great Horned, 2 Barred and 1 Long-eared Owls; 21 Rough-legged, 5 Kestrels and 20 Red-tailed Hawks; 3 Northern Shrikes, 30 Snow Buntings, 9 Horned Larks, 10 Greater Scaup, 2 Canada Geese, 12 Mallard, 1 Goldeneye, 1 Black Duck, 4 Red-breasted Mergansers, 1 Herring Gull, 1 Ring-billed Gull, 6 Blue Jays, 1 Robin, 1 Hairy and 1 Downy Woodpecker, Chickadee, Goldfinch, plus a few House Sparrows, Crows and Starlings.

The group wishes to thank Drs. Harold Axtell and Robert Andrie for their help in identifying species and for their direction of the field activities. We also appreciate the help of Dr. Ron Weir of Kingston and his telephone "hotline" which provided information on the owl status in that region.

W. L. Burch

Ontario Plains Trip, February 19

Mid-February field trips in this area can be sadly unproductive, but this started well with a handsome Rough-legged Hawk perched in a tree on the edge of wooded area across the fields outside J. Davis State Park. The hawk remained facing us while everyone studied it with scopes. A robin was seen in the park and an Eastern Meadowlark was in the field some distance from the hawk.

At Fort Niagara there were Greater Scaup, Common Goldeneye, Oldsquaw, Bufflehead, White-winged Scoter, Surf Scoter, and Common Merganser along the river and at the Coast Guard station. A pair of Kestrels were copulating atop a tall spruce in the park.

Ontario Plains Trip, cont.

At the Lewiston dock we were fortunate to see one Little Gull flying slowly upriver. A Mockingbird was feeding on the multiflora rose hips beside the treatment building.

One wet, ploughed cornfield yielded our only pair of Horned Larks.

On Ide Road between Rt. 425 and Beebe Road we saw two flocks of Blackbirds, mostly Redwings with a few Grackles and one Cowbird. Sounded very much like spring!

Several Red-tailed Hawks, two Northern Harriers and at least fourteen Kestrels, many perched in pairs, were seen during the day. Two small flocks of Canada Geese flew over the fields, but did not settle.

A ghostly band of Snow Buntings drifted up and down in the sky over fields along Rt. 93 at Hulburt Road.

Altogether thirty-two species of birds were seen, the weather was overcast with brighter periods, a bit breezy but not very cold and the rain held off.

Harriette and Walt Klabunde

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SECTION 8 SUMMARY: WHERE THE BIRDS ARE

(from B.O.S. Program given Feb. 22, 1984)

By: Marc Chelemer

This is a fine area for birding, especially in the spring. The shore of Lake Erie has excellent wooded tracts that draw many land migrants. The water's edge attracts shorebirds while the lake yields ducks and gulls. Inland, two marshy areas coupled with fields and meadows complete the habitat offerings. The following key relates to the attached map (p. 46), and includes the map coordinates.

A. "The First Parking Lot" (M 19):

Look for ducks, gulls and terns out on the water, especially in April and October.

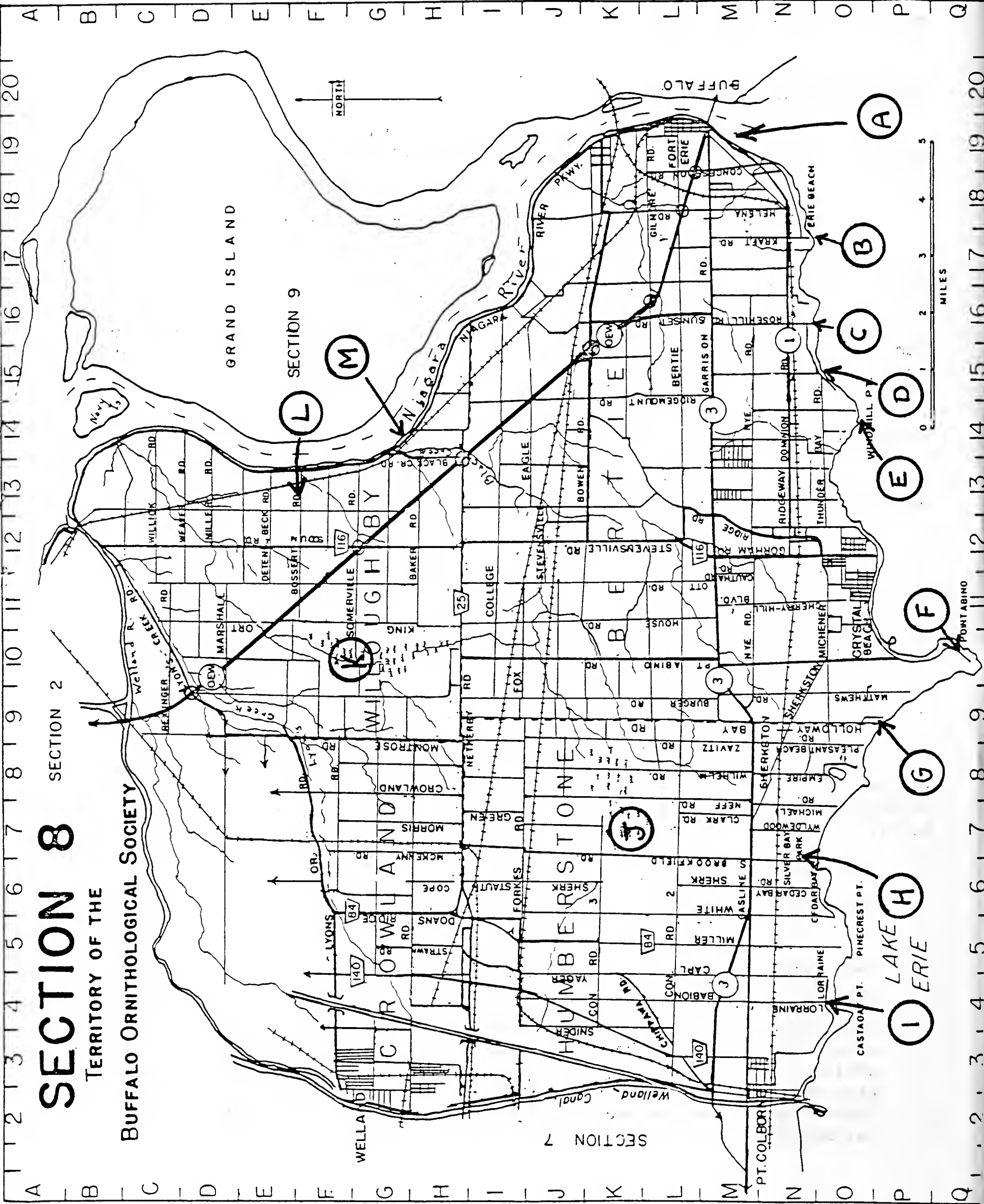
B. Fort Erie Pavilions (Erie Beach) (N 17):

This is an old abandoned fairgrounds reminiscent of "Plant of the Apes," with concrete foundations, smashed piers, etc. The new forest has grown up harbors numerous migrants in the spring; this is one of the best warbler spots in the section. Warbling Vireo, Redstart, Rose-breasted Grosbeak and Scarlet Tanager are common. A pond just off the beaten path has an occasional Green-backed Heron, Red-headed Woodpecker and Killdeer. Look from the old waterfront pier for shorebirds.

SECTION 8

TERRITORY OF THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY



C. Rosehill Road (N 5):

Home of Dr. Harold Axtell. He has seen more than 250 species of birds in this area over many years of birding. Keep your eyes peeled!

D. Stone Mill Road (N 16):

At the lakeward end of this road, there is a small water treatment plant. Walk west along its shore in late spring, looking for shorebirds. The wooded area around the plant has land migrants. At the north end of Stone Mill Road near Garrison Road look for Woodcock in the fields on both sides at dusk.

E. Windmill Point (O 14):

A private community. The trees lining the roads are mostly evergreens and harbor kinglets and warblers. Killdeers are sometimes out in the long lawns to the east.

F. Point Abino (Q 10):

The best spot, perhaps, in the whole section. You must get permission to enter from a resident, or the Fort Erie Chamber of Commerce, or politely ask the guard at the gate. He usually will permit you to enter if you can prove you are a B.O.S.'er. Drive all the way to the end of the road but don't park in the circle. The path along the lake and then up into the woods will give opportunity to study woodpeckers, warblers, thrushes and other forest species.

G. Dr. Marcy's Property (at the end of Holloway Road) (P 9):

These are two wonderful people who spend their summers over on their preserve. For the past two years the spring count has coincided with Mrs. Marcy's annual party, so be polite when birding. Their property is blacketed by Trillium, Ontario's Provincial Flower, and it is a breathtaking sight to behold. White, red and rare yellow flowers are everywhere. The main property is crossed by two parallel ridges with trails along their crests. Red-bellied Woodpeckers and Winter Wrens have been identified here, along with many vireos, and Blackburnian and Black-throated Green Warblers seem to like this area.

H. Pine Grove on E. side of Silver Bay Road S. of Rt. 3 (N 6):

Check for owls. There is a box about halfway through the grove where Screech Owls have roosted.

I. Lorraine Road (O 4):

Drive south from Route 3, watching for Bluebirds along the telephone wires.

J.,

K. Humberstone (K 7) and Willoughby (F 10) Marshes:

These are both official bird sanctuaries. I have never explored Humberstone on foot. Willoughby has a path leading to a wooded pond at the eastern edge of the preserve. Turn south off Saver Road just west of King Street.

L. Bossert Road E. of Sodom (F 12):

A grove of trees yields land migrants and may have owls.

M. Niagara River West Bank:

Many small parks, marshy areas and wooded homesteads from the Canal down to Fort Erie are excellent places to find migrants. The river has ducks, gulls and sometimes terns. The best way to birdwatch is to simply drive slowly with the windows open. Stop at all the creeks.

My personal experience with this area is limited to two May Counts and one October Count, but I consistently see or hear a great many birds, reaching 102 on one May morning. It is easy to cover. The shore and the marshes are the best bets and rarities are always possible. Good birding!

339 Hoyt Street
Buffalo, NY 14213

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NOTES

Bill McKale's Bird Carvings Given as Official N.Y.S. Gifts

Mrs. Willard F. McKale recently received a letter from Alan S. Parter, Deputy Commissioner, State of New York Department of Commerce. Mr. Parter describes how highly appreciated Bill's bird carvings have been, when used as official gifts for overseas missions. A few excerpts from that letter follow:

"As you are aware, it is extremely important, when doing international business, to be sure that appropriate gifts are given to the individuals with whom the business is being transacted...I was very proud to present, on behalf of New York State, your husband's woodcarved, painted birds to a number of individuals who were particularly important to New York State's High Tech/Mode in New York Trade Show. In Singapore I presented one carving to the U.S. Ambassador and another to the Country Manager of Chase Manhattan Bank. Both individuals were extremely pleased to receive these most beautiful carvings. Furthermore, I had done my homework and explained the relationship of each bird to New York State.

"In Australia, I made a presentation to Mr. Bert Englehardt, who is the Director of the U.S. International Trade Center in Sydney. This particular bird, I recall, was a woodpecker. Mr. Englehardt also was very appreciative of receiving such a beautiful carving.

"In my numerous travels I have often presented gifts to dignitaries and businessmen but I can say, without hesitation, that these carvings were better received than any gifts we have previously given and that our recipient was truly happy to receive this special gift.

Bill McKale's Bird Carvings cont.

"You should indeed feel honored that your husband's carvings were given on behalf of New York and we, in turn, are grateful that we could present such a beautiful and unique gift."

* * * * *

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's Clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

May 9th: "Where the Birds Are." Third in a series of presentations by members of the B.O.S. We will learn of the best birding spots in Areas 10, 11 and 14. Bring your territory maps and be prepared to mark them up with good birding information!

May 23rd: April Count Review: Tom Harper will re-cap the early spring bird census. Dave Junkin "Bluebirds." Dave is the Naturalist/Director at the Beaver Meadow Audubon Center. The program was originally devised by the North American Bluebird Society. Dave will add his own commentary to what is already a fine program.

June 13th: Annual Picnic Meeting at Fort Erie Picnic Shelter (the Old Stone Fort). We will meet to discuss the May Count results, share a meal, and do some birding along the Lake Erie shore afterwards. Bring your own food.

September 12th: Summer Bird Experiences: All members of the Society are invited to relate their birding exploits since the June meeting. Feel free to bring slides, tape recordings, photos, or just good stories to share with other members.

September 26th: Tom Harper "Effects of Hunting Laws on Wildlife." What effect on bird populations has hunting had? How have the refuges designed for the breeding of Canada Geese and ducks helped or hurt other forms of wildlife? And just how many birds do the hunters take? These questions and related issues will be explored.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman, (885-0474, Buffalo, N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

- May 6th: Beamer Conservation Area at Grimsby for Hawks. We will meet at the Queenston-Lewiston Bridge parking lot on the American side of the river at 8:30 a.m. Leader: Walt Klabunde (754-4424).
- May 20th: Spring Count. Compiler: Wavel Barber (683-3061). Call him to sign up for your territory.
- May 27th: Delaware Park. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Rumsey and Winsor Roads. Leader: Marie Wendling (632-6625).

For further information about field trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairman (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Shirley Wake (typing).
Editorial Board: Marion Dornhoffer, Bradley Lown, Julia Wells

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

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1984



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN

LIBRARY

VOLUME 50

APRIL 1984

ITHACA N.Y. 14853

NUMBER 4

JUN 21 1984

THE MONTH

March was a cold month, the average temperature of 27.1°(F) being 6° below normal for the month. On March 8th, a record low temperature of -7°(F) was recorded at Greater Buffalo Airport with thermometer readings of -21°(F) in Chaffee in Erie County and -15°(F) in Warsaw in Wyoming County on that date. While temperatures for the remainder of the month were more seasonal, an early spring snow storm dumped up to 24 inches of snow in the Southern Tier counties on March 29th. Total precipitation at Buffalo for the month measured only 1.77 inches, 1.20 inches below normal for the period but snowfall was four inches above normal including a record 4.5 inches which fell on March 13th. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

March 25th was a banner day in the wetlands east of Buffalo with several rarities to reward the large number of bird-watchers taking advantage of the pleasant sunny weather to go afield and see the geese and other waterfowl. The B.O.S. field trip to the wetlands began in an eventful manner when Robert Andrie and over twenty other observers made their first stop at the Nice Road sinks in the Town of Newstead. A smaller goose standing at the edge of a flooded field with a flock of Canada Geese was identified as an adult White-fronted Goose of the Greenland race, A. a. flavirostris, immediately recognizable by its orange feet and legs with a white area encircling the base of its yellow bill. A short time later when the group arrived at the Cayuga Pool overlook at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, an adult Barnacle Goose was seen both standing on the ice covered surface of the pool and flying overhead in the company of three Tundra Swans. Earlier at Cayuga Pool, Tom Harper saw this goose as it flew over him with a flock of 12 Tundra Swans alighting there. When Harper left the overlook, he drove to Ring-neck Pool on Sour Springs Road on the refuge where almost immediately he found an adult male Eurasian Wigeon standing on the ice covered surface with a flock of American Wigeons from which it was easily distinguished by its gray back and sides, brown breast and reddish-brown

head with a cream colored crown. He was joined there by members of the B.O.S. trip who were already in a state of high excitement from their earlier observations of the White-fronted Goose and the Barnacle Goose; for many: three life birds in one day! The wigeon remained at Ring-neck Marsh for the rest of the month where it was seen by many local bird-watchers.

For the past ten years, Walter Klabunde has been a faithful participant in the Federation of Ontario Naturalists "Hawk Watch" at the Beamer Point Conservation Area on the Niagara Escarpment at Grimsby, Ontario just north of the boundary of the B.O.S. study area. This year, with the records for March at his disposal incomplete, he writes that over 1500 raptors were counted before April 1st, including two Bald Eagles, and adult and a sub-adult bird, on March 26th and a one day record count of eleven Northern Goshawks on the 24th for a total of 29 for the month, ten higher than in March, 1983. The Red-tailed Hawk was the most common migrant (329 counted on March 24th) with the Red-shouldered Hawk second (66 birds on March 25th). Steve Eaton writes that during a Cattaraugus County Bird Club field trip on March 24th, he and the other participants witnessed two immature Bald Eagles soaring above the frozen sinks on the Swamp Road in the Town of Conewango in Cattaraugus County. The birds remained in view for ten minutes during which time scrutiny with spotter scopes of up to 60x power failed to reveal streamers or other markings as evidence of banding as nestlings. Olga Rosche writes that between January 14th and March 11th, an adult Northern Goshawk was a visitor at her feeding station on Fish Hill Road in South Wales. At first, she was unable to confirm identification other than to get a brief glimpse of a large accipiter chasing the finches from the feeder and disappearing in the bordering spruces but on February 29th, the goshawk obliged by perching in a tree not fifty feet away where the field marks of this species were easily seen.

One of the most tantalizing reports received during March concerned a female Black-backed Woodpecker first observed on Ivyhurst Road in the Town of Amherst on February 29th and subsequently reported in the immediate vicinity on Greenaway Road and Eltham Drive until March 12th. One unidentified caller at the Museum of Science reported two woodpeckers, both females visiting a suet feeder and stripping bark from an apparently dead tree but none of the local bird-watchers dispatched to the scene could locate either one and no written record was submitted. It is now ten years since the last verified record of this rare boreal vagrant in our study area.

Other interesting records received in March include a report of a flock of eight Sandhill Cranes seen flying over Jordan Harbor in Lincoln County, Ontario on March 31st by Margaret Jansen of St. Catharines. There was only one report of a Red-necked Grebe in our region in March, a bird seen at the Main Street Pond in the City of Dunkirk by Terry Mosher on the 23rd. Also on March 23rd, Pam McNeil of Abbott Road in the Town of Hamburg observed a female Yellow-headed Blackbird at her residence. The bird was clearly seen at distances of no more than ten to 28 feet, three times on that date and the diagnostic pale yellow eye stripes and yellow throat with the "mocha brown" crown, back and rump, easily discernable.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

MARCH NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Pied-billed Grebe	Mar.	4	3 Dunkirk	O'Dell
	"	24	6 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Schaffner
	"	30,31	1,2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Horned Grebe	"	4	3 Dunkirk	O'Dell
*Red-necked Grebe	"	23 F	1 Dunkirk	Mosher, Bowser
Great Blue Heron	"	16 F	2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	17	1 Town of Allegany	Eaton
	"	18	1 Cherry Creek	Rew, Buck
Tundra Swan	"	4	148 Iroquois NWR	Seamans
	"	16	141 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	18	60 Town of Hanover	Goetz
	"	18	334 over Stockton	Rew, Buck
	"	20,23	55,80 Buckhorn Is. St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	24	41 Allegheny Resv.	Eaton et al
	"	24	47 East Randolph	Eaton et al
	"	25	134 Iroquois NWR	Harper
		(maximum counts for month)		
*Gr.White-fr. Goose	"	25	1 Town of Newstead	Andrle (BOS)
(<u>A.a. flavirostris</u>)				
Snow Goose	"	25	1 Iroquois NWR	Danner
	"	25,27	7,3 Iroquois NWR	Endres
*Barnacle Goose	"	25	1 Iroquois NWR	Andrle (BOS)
Canada Goose	"	17	600 Randolph	Rew, Buck
	"	25	25,000 Iroquois NWR	Danner
		(maximum counts for month)		
Green-w. Teal	"	17 F	3 Randolph	Rew, Buck
	"	23	2 Dunkirk	Mosher
	"	25	8 Iroquois NWR	Andrle (BOS)
	"	28	60 Randolph	Elderkins
Amer. Black Duck	"	16,21	47,25 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	17	65 Randolph	Rew, Buck
Mallard	"	17	<u>550</u> Randolph	Rew, Buck
Northern Pintail	"	16,21	168,590 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	17	120 Randolph	Rew, Buck
	"	24	175 Town of Hanover	Mosher et al
	"	28	400 Randolph	Elderkins

*Blue-w. Teal	Mar.	15 F, 17	1, 1	Town of Allegany	Eaton
"	"	23	2	Dunkirk	Mosher
"	"	25	2	Iroquois NWR	Endres
*No. Shoveler	"	15 F	2	Town of Allegany	Eaton
"	"	24	17	Stillson's Pond	Baird
"	"	25	2	Oak Orchard WMA	Seamans
Gadwall	"	14, 26	5, 18	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	25	2	Celoron	Elderkins
*Eurasian Wigeon	"	25	1	Oak Orchard WMA	Seamans
"	"	25	1	Iroquois NWR	Andrle (BOS)
Ring-necked Duck	"	8 F-31	11-73	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	20	3	Dunkirk	Mosher
Lesser Scaup	"	18 F, 30	1, 2	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Oldsquaw	"	25	12	Celoron	Elderkins
Hooded Merganser	"	4 F	2	Bear Lake	Mosher
"	"	9	5	Riverside	Elderkins
"	"	16, 30, 31	18, 29, 34	Iroquois NWR	Endres
*Turkey Vulture	"	21 F	1	Jamestown	Elderkins
"	"	24	1	East Randolph	Baird
"	"	31	85	over Ripley	Rew, Buck
Bald Eagle	"	1	1	Oak Orchard WMA	Seamans
"	"	(immature)			
"	"	4	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	(immature)			
"	"	18	1	Iroquois NWR	Seamans
"	"	(adult)			
"	"	24	2	East Randolph	Eaton et al
"	"	(both immatures)			
Northern Harrier	"	23-27	1-2	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	24	2	Town of Villanova	Mosher et al
"	"	28	1	Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	1-23	1	South Wales	Rosches
"	"	4, 5, 8	1, 1, 1	W. Batavia	Seamans
"	"	27 F	2	over Pinehurst	Rew, Walker
"	"	31	6	over Ripley	Rew, Buck
Cooper's Hawk	"	4	1	Town of Sheridan	Rew
"	"	10, 14	1, 1	Town of Darien	Harper
"	"	14	1	Town of Allegany	Eaton
*Northern Goshawk	"	2, 4, 11	1, 1, 1	South Wales	Rosches
"	"	31	1	over Ripley	Rew, Buck
Red-tailed Hawk	"	27 F	8	over Pinehurst	Rew, Walker
"	"	31	146	over Ripley	Rew, Buck
Red-should. Hawk	"	24 F	1	Dunkirk	Mosher
"	"	25	4	Allegany State Pk.	Baird
"	"	31	44	over Ripley	Rew, Buck
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	14-30	5	Farmersville	D. Clark
"	"	17	16	Town of Randolph	Rew, Buck
"	"	18, 24	11, 12	Kent Switch	Rew, Buck
"	"	20	2	Town of Amity	Pitzricks
"	"	31	4	over Ripley	Rew, Buck

Ruffed Grouse	Mar.	31	1	Tonawanda WMA	Klabundes
Wild Turkey	"	23	12	Town of Evans	Rew
	"	26	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
American Coot	"	28	6	Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
Common Snipe	"	22 F, 29	1, 24	Town of Stockton	Mosher
	"	29	2	Riverside	Elderkins
	"	29, 30	1, 4	Fredonia	Mosher
*Amer. Woodcock	"	20 F-28	1-3	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	21	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Bonaparte's Gull	"	30 F	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Little Gull	"	31	1	Lewiston	Klabundes
Iceland Gull	"	9	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Glaucous Gull	"	9	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Short-eared Owl	"	9	1	Kent Switch	Rew, Buck
Snowy Owl	"	8, 10	1, 1	Wheatfield Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	29	1	Ivory	Elderkin
*Barred Owl	"	4	1	Allegany State Pk.	Baird
*Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	4	2	Angola	O'Dell
	"	12	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	1-15	1	Spring Brook (f)	Danner
	"	1, 17, 25	1, 1, 1	Orchard Park	O'Dell
	"	3	1	Iroquois NWR (f)	Barbers
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	"	1-17	2	Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
Northern Flicker	"	20 F-28	1	Spring Brook	Danner
	"	30	1	Buffalo	O'Dell
*Eastern Phoebe	"	25 F	1	Iroquois NWR	Seamans
	"	30	1	Spring Brook	Danner
	"	31	1	Town of Allegany	Eaton
*Horned Lark	"	4	1	Town of Brant	O'Dell
(E.a. alpestris)					
*Tree Swallow	"	22 F	3	Wellsville	Pitzrick
	"	26	1	Town of Alabama	Endres
	"	27	3	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-31	2	Town of Pomfret (f)	Mosher
	"	1-31	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick et al
	"	4	1	Canadaway Creek N.S.	Rew, Buck
	"	12, 19	1, 1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	1-27	1	Town of Wales (f)	Rosches
	"	10, 24	1, 1	Orchard Park	O'Dell
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	4	3	Alfred	Brooks
Eastern Bluebird	"	25 F	1	Tonawanda WMA	Harper
	"	25 F	1	Orchard Park	O'Dell
	"	26	1	Town of Allegany	Eaton
	"	26, 27	3, 1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	28	1	Town of Pomfret	Mosher
American Robin	"	4 F, 14, 16	5, 22, 29	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	13	1	Elma	Forsberg
	"	15-31	2-6	Spring Brook	Danner
*Water Pipit	"	24 F	3	Allegheny Res.	Eaton et al
	"	24 F	32	Kent Switch	Rew, Buck
	"	29	1	Town of Stockton	Mosher

Northern Shrike	Mar.	4	1 Town of Stockton	Mosher
"	"	4	1 Langford	O'Dell
"	"	5	1 Port Robinson, Ont.	Campbell
"	"	8	1 Town of Cambria	Rew, Horbett
"	"	15	1 Town of Porter	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	18	1 Allegany State Pk.	Baird
"	"	25	1 Tonawanda WMA	Harper
"	"	28	1 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	31	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
*Yellow-r. Warbler	"	31	6 Town of Westfield	Rew, Buck
*Rufous-s. Towhee	"	29 F	1 Fredonia	Goetz
Amer. Tree Sparrow	"	12,29	61,62 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
*Field Sparrow	"	25 F	1 N. Boston	O'Dell
*Savannah Sparrow	"	25 F	1 Orchard Park	O'Dell
"	"	26	1 N. Boston	O'Dell
*Fox Sparrow	"	23 F	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	31	1 Alfred	Brooks
Song Sparrow	"	20 F-31	1-2 Spring Brook	Danner
"	"	22,29,30	3,9,17 Farmersville	D. Clark
"	"	22-31	1-15 Alfred	Brooks
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	"	1-30	2 Darien Center (f)	Harper
"	"	1-31	6 Orchard Park	Saville
"	"	1-31	8-12 Spring Brook	Danner
"	"	1-31	1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	5-20	1-8 Town of Wales (f)	Rosches
Snow Bunting	"	3	275 Town of Alabama	Endres
"	"	9	200 Arcade	Clark
"	"	12	75 Ripley	Mosher
"	"	18	2 Town of Lancaster	Barbers
Eastern Meadowlark	"	3	1 Town of Sardinia	Bee
"	"	4	2 Town of Brant	O'Dell
Rusty Blackbird	"	2	2 Wheatfield Twp. (f)	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	27	23 Fredonia	Mosher
*Yellow-h. Blackbird	"	23	1 Hamburg	McNeil
Pine Siskin	"	28-30	1 Darien Center (f)	Harper
Evening Grosbeak	"	1,3,6,24 17,18,18,14	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	"	1-30	5-20 Darien Center (f)	Harper
"	"	1-31	1-25 Farmersville	Clark
"	"	1-31	50-100 Town of Wales (f)	Rosches

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded. 106

Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue. 21

Total for year 127

* * * * *

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF MARCH 1984 B.O.S. MEETINGS

943rd Meeting, March 14th:

President Wavel Barber announced that two months of lead time is necessary to guarantee timeliness of announcements to be published in The Prothonotary.

Walt Klabunde requested assistance in monitoring the spring hawk migration at points on the south shore of Lake Erie.

Wavel Barber asked for discussion on the idea of submitting a plan (similar to the one the B.O.S. drafted in 1977) to the City's waterfront planning committee on the use of Times Beach.

The Museum has requested volunteers to be guides at Tifft Farm.

Program: Bill Townsend, Bill Burch, Bob Brock and Mike Zebehazy showed slides and described the owls that were seen on the recent trip to Amherst Island.

Recent bird sightings included a possible Three-toed Woodpecker in Amherst, and Great Horned Owl nesting at Tifft Farm.

944th Meeting, March 28th:

Membership: Arlene O. Waagen was accepted for Associate Membership.

It was decided to give each member a free copy of the new Date Guide.

Robert Andriele announced that the B.O.S. will submit a proposal to the waterfront planning committee on the management of Times Beach. President Wavel Barber has written the committee saying that we will be submitting the proposal. Copies of the 1976-77 B.O.S. plan are available.

Program: Two films: Grouse Country and Puffins, Predators and Pirates.

Respectfully submitted,
Julia Wells, Secretary

Welcome New Members

The following are new Associate Members of the Society:

Charles & Barbara Halvorsen
9 Yale Place
Buffalo, NY 14210
(716) 826-9247

Barbara R. Tomasi
28 South Grove Street
E. Aurora, NY 14052

March 4th Owl Walk

A turnout of about 35 people trekked around Southern Ontario and Niagara Falls on this sunny, cold Sunday in search of owls. We met Blane Farnan in Canada and spent most of the morning and early afternoon hunting in a few select spots. Heavy snowfall made walking arduous, but one Long-eared Owl was flushed in one area and good views were had by all as it flew over a clearing twice while numerous sets of eyes watched carefully.

Later we drove to a roadside vantage point to see a Great Horned Owl on its nest. Following that some of the party continued back to Niagara Falls, U.S.A. A Screech-Owl (gray phase) was observed in its nesting hole in a tree. Finally, a jaunt to the eastern border of the Niagara Falls Airport provided a spectacular observation of a lone Snowy Owl, perched only a few hundred feet from the roadside.

Twenty-eight species of birds were logged for the day. The miss of a Saw-whet Owl was the only disappointment for the birders who stayed for the whole outing.

Trip Leader: Marc Chelemer

Amherst Island Revisited, March 10-11, 1984

Five B.O.S. birders went to the Amherst Island Owl country a month after the February B.O.S. trip there. The writer returned in search of the Boreal Owl, missed before, and in the hope of better lighting for his photographs. The region, at the eastern end of Lake Ontario, near Kingston, Ont., was described in the previous issue of this newsletter.

Saturday was overcast and 25⁰(F) when we arrived on the Island at 2 p.m. A Boreal Owl had last been reported in the cedars behind the old red church so we went there first. Birding was delayed, however, when the writer, while parking Fran Rew's Chevy, slid off an icy shoulder. Digging and pushing efforts were intensified when some birders drove up to say that two Boreals were in the other woods. (How fortunate that we were not in the wrong woods at the time!) A search for help brought a pickup truck operator with a long rope, and the Chevy was quickly onto the road and on its way.

Just as promised, the two Boreal Owls were roosting in small cedars. They paid little attention to observers and photographers only 6 to 8 feet away. The Boreal was readily distinguishable from a Saw-whet Owl. The latter, in a nearby cedar, had buffy brown breast stripes rather than chocolate brown ones. The Boreal also has a lighter facial disc with a darker rim. In a nearby deciduous tree a Barred Owl sat in the open at a 20 foot distance. By now four Snowy Owls had been seen, some sitting and other hunting mice over the snowy (14 inch depth) fields.

Sunday morning we drove the Varty Lake road on the mainland four times looking for the Great Gray Owl seen there Friday afternoon. Two other cars were doing the same but to no avail, so Art Schaffner missed his life bird. Four to

Amherst Island Revisited cont.

six Great Grays could have been seen there a month ago so we surmised they had moved out. Sunday morning was sunny but this was interrupted by whiteouts from blowing snow.

On the Sunday trip to Amherst Island the ferry worked hard to break ice that had formed since its passage 30 minutes earlier in the 20⁰(F) weather. A stop at the red church woods netted us two Long-eared Owls. Using what proved to be good foresight Lois Abbott and Phyllis Hansen departed early, leaving the Island in sunshine. The remaining three of us were caught in the woods when the wind rose to 35 mph or more. As a result the 200 yard trek from the woods to the car was in a blinding and stinging whiteout from blowing snow. It was like some "outward bound" experience, and my companions thought it exceeded the worst of the blizzard of '77.

Late in the afternoon the wind died and we parked near the east woodlot to watch a Short-eared Owl foraging back and forth as this raptor should be seen: low over the snow with golden sunlight on him, 50-100 yards away, and unhurried. A dozen Rough-legged hawks, many at nearby range, completed the memorable views of the weekend.

To improve snow-scene photography I found an 81A filter helped put warmth into those blue snow scenes, especially with Ektachrome film, when the 81A actually can be used all the time instead of a skylite filter. Dull-day snow often needs a plus one exposure correction on an automatic camera to overcome the grayness.

William L. Burch

Remarkable Oak Orchard Waterfowl Trip, March 25, 1984

Future Oak Orchard trips can only try and equal this one. Before noon, and with two big finds to go, Bob Andrie said, "I believe I've never seen so many rare birds in one day." For the 27 B.O.S. members on the trip, joined by about 9 from Willie D'Anna's I.S.N.O.S. group, it was indeed an unforgettable day. The weather was around 32⁰(F) with good lighting ranging from hazy sunlight to bright sunlight and blue sky.

A check the previous day showed the Newstead Sinks to be flooded and to have waterfowl, unlike their dry condition of the last year or so. So the traditional Sink route was followed. This proved a good decision since at the pond on Nice Road near Millgrove Road, an adult White-fronted Goose was found feeding in the field, its orange feet very conspicuous among the black feet of the Canada Geese. The Canadas seemed to resent it and would peck at it occasionally causing the White-fronted to fly a few yards. It is considered an accidental visitant in this region.

A Blue-phase Snow Goose was found feeding in an orchard on Stage Road. This one flew quickly but landed close enough in a pond so that everyone could see him. The writer wishes to thank his skilled observer for spotting these first two birds. Also in the Sinks were about 60 Tundra Swans and innumerable Canada Geese.

Oak Orchard Waterfowl Trip cont.

At Cayuga Pool in the Refuge came the find of the day. Someone shouted "Barnacle Goose overhead!" and we looked up to see this rare and distinctly patterned goose hardly 200 feet over our heads in the escort of three Tundra Swans. The birds were flying with wingtips nearly touching and the goose was the second in the group. At this time the sky was an intense blue so the black-and-white pattern of the goose, brilliant in this light, contrasted beautifully with the snow-white color of the swans. It would be hard to imagine a more unforgettable background for seeing this rare bird. In the Directory of ABA Birds in Vardaman's book Call Collect, Ask for Birdman, the Barnacle Goose is a Code 7 bird, meaning that there is no realistic chance of its occurring in any one year anywhere in North America. (Vardaman didn't get one in his 1979 big year.)

At Cayuga Pool the Great-horned Owl was on its nest in the snag in the water about 200 yards off to the right. It was well-concealed but had been pointed out to the writer the day before. There also were three Snow Geese and several thousand Canada Geese at Cayuga. The Pool was about half iced over.

A report by Tom Harper of an Eurasian Wigeon at Mallard Overlook led to a rush to that place where it was found in the company of eight American Wigeons. The red on the side of the head was similar to that on nearby Redheads. The Eurasian Wigeon is an irregular rare transient visitant in this area. However, like almost all birds we encounter, this is a Code 1 bird, meaning that it can be found in one pre-selected day within a given season and locality somewhere in North America.

A tardy arrival at the Visitor's Center provided the perfect timing that had characterized the whole day. An adult Bald Eagle circled over the building for several minutes, black and white against the blue sky and harassed by a Red-tailed Hawk. The hawk was dwarfed by the eagle (wingspread 48 versus 80 inches), so the first impression was that the smaller was a Cooper's Hawk.

Odmund Olsen's feeder on Sour Springs Road had two Red-bellied Woodpeckers and two Tufted Titmice, the latter new to the Refuge he said. Only one Tree Swallow was found on the Refuge and no Common Snipe, so we were early for both. Turkey Vultures and Great Blue Herons were plentiful.

An effort to find the reported Bluebird and Yellow-headed Blackbird off Meadville Road was fruitless. Our luck had run out so the trip was ended around 2:30 p.m.

The 51 species found and some numbers were as follows: Great-Blue Heron, Tundra Swan 125, Canada Goose 30-40,000 (Refuge estimate), Snow Goose 7, Blue Goose 1, Barnacle Goose 1, White-fronted Goose 1, Mallard, Black Duck, Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Blue-winged Teal, Eurasian Wigeon 1, American Wigeon 25, Northern Shoveler, Wood Duck 8, Ring-necked Duck, Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser 10, Turkey Vulture 20, Cooper's Hawk 1, Red-tailed Hawk 13, Bald Eagle (adult) 1, Northern Harrier 5, American Kestrel 6, Ring-n. Pheasant 1, Amer. Coot 2, Killdeer, Ring-billed Gull 10, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Great-h. Owl 1, Common Flicker, Red-bellied Wdpkr. 3, Downey Wdpkr. 1, Horned Lark, Tree Swallow 1, Blue Jay, Com. Crow,

Oak Orchard Waterfowl Trip cont.

Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse 2, White-br. Nuthatch, American Robin, Starling, House Sparrow, E. Meadowlark, Redwing Blackbird, Common Grackle, Cardinal, American Goldfinch, Chipping Sparrow.

Submitted by,

William L. Burch,
Trip Leader

1984 March Winter Bird Survey Report

This third year of the B.O.S. 5-bird 5-year survey was more successful than the others. Successful in that we had more birders and we found more birds.

Included with this issue is a chart showing a three-year comparison of the results, so far, of this yearly survey of the Tufted Titmouse, the Carolina Wren, the Northern Mockingbird, the Northern Cardinal and the House Finch.

In 1982 we found 10 Tufted Titmice, 34 in 1983 and 57 in 1984. The Carolina Wren was six each year for 2 years but this year it just wasn't around, for only 1 was reported. The Northern Mockingbird seems to be increasing in numbers for this year we doubled 1983's figures. The Northern Cardinal increased its count to 496 this year, almost a hundred more than 1983. The House Finch, which was 146 the first year, rose to 672 the 2nd year and this year we found over seven times as many -- the total of 1101. So our yearly totals of birds was 443 for 1982, 1115 for 1983 and 1673 for 1984.

The first year we had 10 members and 26 friends reporting for the survey. The second year our members were numbered 37 with 48 friends. This year 39 members and 52 friends, for a total of 91 observers.

The sectional divisions birded increased each year from 10 to 14 to 17 for this year.

Our coverage still is not as good as it could be. You can see on the B.O.S. territorial map just where the reports came from and how much more birding is to be done. With your continued enthusiasm and help, I know we can do it!

Our many thanks to our members who assisted with this survey - the Barbers, Ken Brandes, Lois Buck, Mary Clemesha, the Don Clarks, the Coopers, Ken Cohen, Dick Christensen, the Danners, the Forsbergs, Karen Geiger, Tom Harper, the Hulls, Rose Kuma, the Klabundes, the Leonards, Wilma Laux, Cynthia Millard, Ann Miranian, the Matlocks, Vivian Pitzrick, the Rosches, Fran Rew, G.D. Smith, Mary Saville, Dr. Sommerville, (a special thanks for promoting the survey in Canada), Marie Wendling and the Wrights.

1984 March Winter Bird Survey Report cont.

Our many thanks to our 14 Canadian friends (some of whom are members of the Peninsula Field Naturalists Club) M/M Gordon Bellersby of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Frank Mueller of Niagara-on-the-Lake; Pauline Leonard, Charles Chitty, Audrey Barnsley, Alan Smith, Khyo Roy, and M/M Millman of St. Catharines; William Honsberger of Jordan Station; M/M Biggar and Mrs. Deborah Smith of Ridgeville.

Our many thanks also to our 38 American friends: Erle Jackson of Clarence; Dr/M. Lipson, Lockport; Vi Norberg, East Aurora; Lloyd Sprawl, South Wales; R.R. Wade, Batavia, birded with 4 friends for Max and Jane Mason, Batavia; Mrs. C. Reinhart, East Aurora; Ray Hein, East Aurora; Joyce Patelunas, Lakeview; Edith Geiger, Orchard Park; Ron Rycroft, Gainesville; Gertrude Dorshide, Strykersville; Mrs. P. Metz, South Wales; Helen Graves, Stannard; Olive Stimson, Amity Lake, Belmont; M/M Rositzke, Scio; Steven Russell, Friendship; Roberta Clark, Scio; the Kuma family (4), Buffalo; M/M Terry Mosher, Jeanne Flory and Joanne Goetz of Fredonia; M/M Bert Secor or Kenmore; M/M Orris Hull, Williamsville; Mae Ruhl, East Aurora; M/M Roche, Cheektowaga.

UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS: The Moshers report that their sightings of the Carolina Wren and Mockingbird in Section 20 in January and February suggest that their population of these two birds is stable. The Hulls in Williamsville had a Carolina Wren for two days in January. Ken Brandes in Hamburg had a Pine Warbler in November, December, January and last sighting was February 28

NOTE: The map and chart referred to above follow on pgs. 63 and 64.

Compiler, Marg Wright

* * * * *

NOTES

Peninsula Field Naturalists Club

This organization is active in the Niagara Peninsula of Ontario west of the Niagara River to Grimsby and south to Port Maitland, including Dunnville. It is interested in bird records from this area and has asked B.O.S. members if they would contribute records to them. The address is:

Dr. Richard Knapton
Department of Biology
Brock University
St. Catharines, Ontario
Canada L2S 3A1

MARCH WINTER BIRD SURVEY
1982 - 1983 - 1984 RESULTS

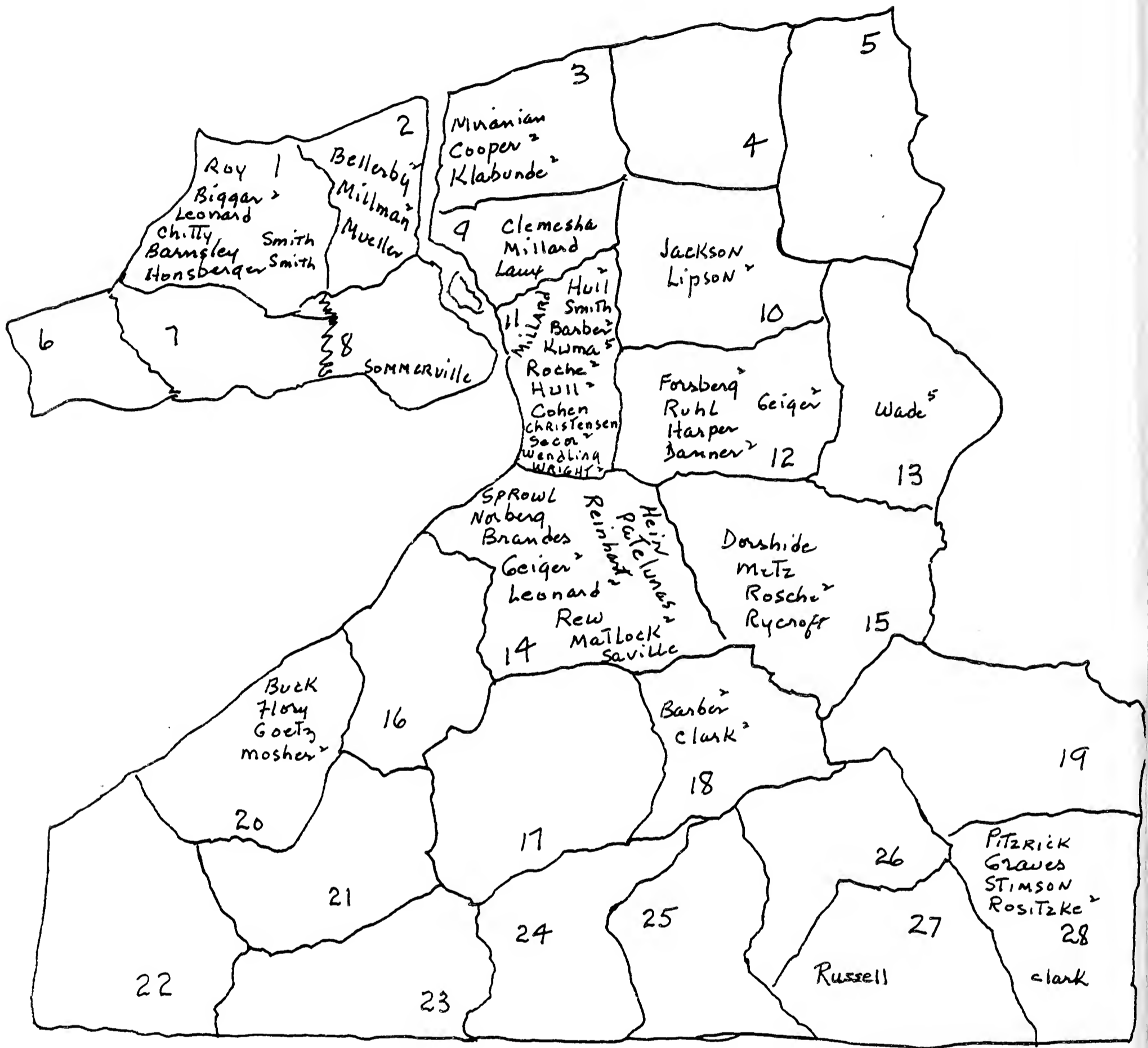
SECTIONS COVERED		1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	18	19	20	25	27	28	TOTALS		
																						1982	1983	1984
Tufted Titmouse	1982			1F	1F 1E						1F		3F	3F								10		
	1983			1F						9F	2F			2F	1F			12F			7F		34	
	1984	6F	4F 4E	2F		2E			1F 1E	8F		1F	6F 5E	1F 2E				2F 1E		6F	7F			57
Carolina Wren	1982									2F			2F 2E									6		
	1983								5E				1F										6	
	1984												1F											1
Mockingbird	1982			6E																		6		
	1983	4E		1E				2E		1F 1E													9	
	1984	1F 3E	3F 3E	7E									1F											18
Cardinal	1982			2F 21E	8F	16F		82F 1E	12F	14F 11E	9F 1E		25F 15E	50F		8F						275		
	1983			13F 3E		8F 13E		98F 3E	15F 6E	135F 8E	12F 1E		17F 1E	91F 1E		8F		18F	7F 3E		3F 13E		394	
	1984	32F 5E	14F 6E	23F 12E		1E	5F 2E	90F 2E	9F 6E	28F 5E	26F 4E	5F	85F 29E	38F 6E		6F	3E	28F			19F 7E			496
House Finch	1982			8F		1F		7E		50F 12E	4F		50F	12F		2F						146		
	1983			24F		6F		87F	27F 18E	380F 94E	6F			26F	30F								672	
	1984	105F	22F	19F 5E				100F 15E	10F 6E	450F	46F 36E	4F	79F 2E	34F		100F 1E		50F			22F			1101
Grand Totals																					443	1115	1673	

MARCH Winter Bird Survey
1982 - 1983 - 1984 Results

F = at feeder
E = found elsewhere

OBSERVERS:	Friends	10	48	52
	Members	26	37	39
	Totals	36	85	91
No. Sections Covered		10	14	17

March Winter-bird Survey



Where our reports came from—

1984

Bird Experiences

Please send a write-up of any interesting experiences you have while birding in the Niagara Frontier Region. Other The Prothonotary readers will enjoy reading them and will learn more about birds and birding. Send stories to Bob Klips, Editor.

* * * * *

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's Clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

- June 13th: Annual Picnic Meeting at Fort Erie Picnic Shelter (the Old Stone Fort). We will meet to discuss the May Count results, share a meal, and do some birding along the Lake Erie shore afterwards. Bring your own food.
- September 12th: Summer Bird Experiences: All members of the Society are invited to relate their birding exploits since the June meeting. Feel free to bring slides, tape recordings, photos, or just good stories to share with other members.
- September 26th: Tom Harper "Effects of Hunting Laws on Wildlife." What effect on bird populations has hunting had? How have the refuges designed for the breeding of Canada Geese and ducks helped or hurt other forms of wildlife? And just how many birds do the hunters take? These questions and related issues will be explored.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman, (885-0474, Buffalo, N.Y.).

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Shirley Wake (typing).

Editorial Board: Marion Dornhaffer, Bradley Lown,
Julia Wells

EDITOR:

Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

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THE PROTHONOTARY

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY ITHACA N. Y. 14853

THE AUG 16 1984

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 50

MAY 1984

NUMBER 5

THE MONTH

The weather in April was generally mild with temperatures averaging more than two degrees above normal and precipitation, mostly in the form of rain, one half inch less than average. The temperature did not reach 70° (F) until April 26th when a large mass of warm gulf air, ushered in on southwest winds, precipitated a huge movement of migrants into our area including the first significant wave of neotropical passerines. A record high temperature of 84° (F) was recorded on the 27th and the weather remained pleasant and sunny through the 29th. On April 30th, early morning rain preceded a weather front accompanied by gale force winds gusting up to 72 m.p.h. which caused some flooding and property damage from falling trees and power lines. At least one avian casualty of the windstorm was reported; Ward Klepfer recovered the remains of a male Black-throated Blue Warbler that struck a wire fence in Buffalo during the gale. The storm also generated an interesting movement of pelagic species on the Niagara River at Fort Erie, Ontario. Harold Axtell observed a Little Gull in breeding plumage, three Glaucous Gulls in the white plumage typical of first year birds and two very early migrant Black-bellied Plovers. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

It would be difficult to imagine a more successful field trip than that enjoyed by B.O.S. members and friends on March 25th in the wetlands of the Oak Orchard area of Genesee and Orleans counties and reported in these pages by Bill Burch last month. Most of the participants added at least two life birds to their lists. It is pleasant to relate that five short weeks later, on April 29th, a B.O.S. field trip to the Braddock's Bay area of Lake Ontario proved to be at least its equal in excitement. The days preceding the trip witnessed a huge movement of hawks and other raptors over Braddock's Bay, 10,000 birds on the 26th and 21,000 on the 27th. The hawk flight on the 29th was considerably smaller, our group seeing only between one and two thousand birds, including eight to ten Ospreys. However, there was so much of interest to see on this memorable day that no complaints were

forthcoming. At Braddock's Bay, an adult Sandhill Crane was seen in a field, feeding with a flock of Canada Geese. At the Island Cottage Woods nearby, a Worm-eating Warbler was discovered among the passerine migrants and an immature Merlin perched obligingly in a tree behind the parking lot at the hawk look-out. On the return trip to the Oak Orchard area, the group heard a Western Meadowlark in full song. In the town of Yates, an adult male Wilson's Phalarope in breeding plumage was seen among the shorebirds in a flooded field. However, the greatest thrill was yet to come. At the Cayuga Pool at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, a magnificent adult female Peregrine Falcon was in full view, perched on the limb of a dead tree some 300 yards from the overlook and glaring at the female Great Horned Owl, sitting on her nest in an adjacent tree some ten feet away!

A new location for observing the spring passage of raptors in our study area is the N.Y. State Thruway overpass on Forsythe Road in the Town of Ripley in Chautauqua County. In late March and April, Frances Rew and Lois Buck spent many hours at this site which is strategically located on the Lake Plain between the south shore of Lake Erie and the foothills of the Allegheny Plateau region to the east. However, most observers were afield further to the west in the south towns of Erie County when the warm southerly winds of the last few days of April triggered the anticipated mass movement of Broad-winged Hawks through our area that such weather patterns usually bring. At Beamer Point Conservation Area at Grimsby, Ontario, 3159 Broad-wings were tallied on April 26th and 2776 on the 28th as part of a record high total of 7704 birds of this species at that location for the month. Two adult Golden Eagles also passed over Beamer Point on the 26th while the high number of Sharp-shinned Hawks, 1231 birds was recorded on April 28th. At the Buffalo Museum of Science, numerous reports of migrating raptors were received on April 26th and 27th. On the 26th in the Town of Orchard Park an unidentified observer saw 1,457 birds between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., including 1,276 Broad-winged Hawks and two Northern Goshawks. On the 27th, the same observer reported 3,677 raptors between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. including 3,576 Broad-winged Hawks, and one adult Bald Eagle. The reader should not gain the impression that April was a dull month for hawk-watching prior to this spectacular movement. Probably the outstanding ornithological event of the month was the sighting of an adult Black Vulture flying at tree top level over the intersection of Meadville and Owen Roads in the Town of Alabana in Genesee County on April 7th. The bird was identified by William Vaughan and several members of his intermediate bird study class from the Buffalo Museum of Science who observed it in flight with a group of five Turkey Vultures, apparently migrants, wheeling low over a woodlot and among the trees before disappearing to the northwest. The bird was slightly smaller than the Turkey Vultures and immediately distinguished from them by the shorter wing span and diagnostic white spots on the outer primaries as well as its labored flight pattern of laternately flapping and sailing.

Finally, before leaving the subject of the raptor flight of late April, I must mention that one of the highlights of the passage on April 28th was the observation of two Merlins flying over Pinehurst on the Old Lake Shore Road in the Town of Hamburg where they were identified as adult female birds by Robert Andrie and others present. Walter Klabunde writes to correct an error in this column in the last issue concerning the hawk watch at the Beamer Point Conservation Area at Grimsby, Ontario. At that time and in previous references in these pages to this project, the writer has described it as under the auspices of the Ontario Federation

of Naturalists. Actually, it is sponsored by the Hawk Migration Association of North America although the FON supplies most of the observers and must be credited with the success it has enjoyed. Also, the writer erroneously locates Beamer Point a short distance from the 'northern boundary' of the B.O.S. study area; not so, says Walter. The closest proximity of our study area to Beamer Point is just $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles east of it while Smithville, Ontario is eight miles south of it.

It would appear that the Sandhill Crane can no longer be considered an accidental vagrant in spring on the Niagara Frontier but a virtually annual spring migrant in small numbers. In addition to the flock of eight birds reported from Lincoln County, Ontario in March, there were several records in Western New York in April. Steve Eaton reported an observation of a Sandhill Crane in flight, seen by Fred Meyers west of Olean, on April 8th. In addition to a very rewarding hawk flight over Lakeside Cemetery in the Town of Hamburg on April 27th, Frances Rew and Lois Buck saw a large, long-necked bird with its legs trailing behind a triangular shaped tail pass over them at a distance of no more than 150 yards. Rew identified it as an adult Sandhill Crane by its light to medium gray plumage and bright red crown. It was a life bird for Bill Bogacki who arrived on the scene a few moments before and a missed opportunity for this writer who got there one half hour later! On the following day in Chautauqua County, Robert Sundell, Dave Gagne, Dave Dister and Frank and Ross Gardner were in the Burgeson Sanctuary on Riverside Road in the Town of Kiantone. While scanning the mudflats of a drained pond from the observation deck of the Roger Tory Peterson Nature Interpretive Building, they saw a large, long-legged wading bird they immediately identified as an adult Sandhill Crane. Again, the basic light gray plumage with slightly brownish cast on the underparts with a dark red crown and whitish sides of the face and throat were clearly seen. It was Sundell's third observation of this crane in southwestern New York.

Another bonus in the spring hawk watching enjoyed by Fran Rew and Lois Buck occurred on April 22nd at the Forsythe Road lookout in the Town of Ripley when an immature Northern Gannet flew over proceeding in a northerly direction towards Lake Erie, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile away. Rew and Buck observed the bird flying at a distance of 300 feet, noting its long, narrow pointed wings, long neck, conical bill and pointed wedge-shaped tail, giving it the unmistakable 'pointed at both ends' configuration, a reliable character for the recognition of the sulids in flight. The gannet was dark brown in color, identifying it as a juvenile bird.

Robert Andrle's visit to Pinehurst in the Town of Hamburg on April 27th was disappointing in that the anticipated hawk flight he had come to witness that morning was occurring on warm southwest winds further inland. His disappointment was tempered by the sighting of a record five Pine Warblers among the passerine migrants observed there, including three male and two female birds.

For the second consecutive month, a Yellow-headed Blackbird was seen in our region. Jeanine Flory of Berry Road, Fredonia in Chautauqua County observed a male Yellow-headed Blackbird feeding on the ground and perched in a tree in the yard behind her house there. The 'robin-size' bird had the characteristic bright yellow head with small white patches on each wing plainly visible when it took flight. There was also an unconfirmed report received at the Museum of Science of an adult male Yellow-headed Blackbird at a feeder on Feddick Road in the Town of Concord on April 28th.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

APRIL NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
 F - Indicates first record for the migration.
 L - Indicates last record for the migration.
 (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Common Loon	Apr.	6 F,20	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	7,17	2,8 Bear Lake	Mosher
	"	18,19	2,4 Allegany State Pk.	Baird
	"	18	11 Allegheny Res.	Baird
	"	21,22,28	3,7,10 Pinehurst	Andrle et al
	"	23	1 Pinehurst	Hess
	"	25	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	27	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	28	7 Farmersville Center	D. Clark
Pied-billed Grebe	"	14	7 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
Horned Grebe	"	15	5 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	18	10 Allegany State Pk.	Baird
	"	18,19	4,1 Allegheny Res.	Baird
Red-necked Grebe	"	18,19	1,1 Allegany State Pk.	Baird
	"	21	1 Mayville	Rew, Buck
	"	22	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	22	2 Iroquois NWR	Seamans
* <u>Northern Gannet</u>	"	22	1 Town of Ripley	Rew, Buck
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	15,22	4,2 Pinehurst	Andrle et al
	"	18	1 Salamanca	Baird
	"	22	18 Barcelona	Rew, Buck
*American Bittern	"	27 F	1 Allegany State Pk.	Baird
	"	28	2 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
*Green-backed Heron	"	5 F,14	1,1 Farmersville Sta.	D. Clark
	"	15	1 Allegany State Pk.	Baird
*B.-cr. Night-Heron	"	22 F	50-60 Niagara Falls	Danna, Potter
	"	27	5 Pt. Gratiot	Moshers et al
Tundra Swan	"	1	21 Town of Newstead	Hess
	"	1,15	49,5 Tonawanda WMA	Hess
	"	1	6 Iroquois NWR	Hess
	"	2	20 Randolph	Eaton
	"	8,24	74,5 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
Snow Goose	"	24	1 Town of Alabama	Endres
	"	29	1 Iroquois NWR	Andrle (BOS)
Mallard	"	7	<u>300</u> Kent Switch	Rew, Buck

Northern Shoveler	Apr.	3 F	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	5-18	6-8 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	15	5 Tonawanda WMA	Hess
"	"	23	2 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
Gadwall	"	1	19 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	15	2 Tonawanda WMA	Hess
"	"	23	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
Ring-necked Duck	"	1,5	77,88 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Oldsquaw	"	30	150 Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
White-w. Scoter	"	17	2 Cassadaga Lake	Mosher
Hooded Merganser	"	1,5,19	32,36,41 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	2	30 Allegheny Res.	Eaton
*Ruddy Duck	"	15,21	1,1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	20	1 Iroquois NWR	McKale
"	"	29	2 Iroquois NWR	Seamans
*Black Vulture	"	7	1 Town of Alabama	Vaughan, Renning et al
Turkey Vulture	"	1,2	156,31 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
"	"	11	8 over Buffalo	Andrle, Byron
"	"	13,14	115,29 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
"	"	26	11 Town of Hanover	Rew, Schaffner
*Osprey	"	4 F	1 Town of Batavia	Endres
"	"	6-28	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick, Adams
"	"	10	1 Town of Stockton	Mosher
"	"	13,14,22	2,1,1 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
"	"	15	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	15	1 Town of Eden	Andrle
"	"	15,18,21	1,1,1 Farmersville Sta.	D. Clark
"	"	21,22,28	3,3,4 over Pinehurst	Andrle et al
"	"	22	1 Town of Arkwright	Mosher
"	"	23,29,30	1,1,1 Farmersville Sta.	D. Clark
"	"	26	1 Allenberg Bog	Chapple
"	"	28	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna et al
"	"	30	1 Belmont	Burtons, Jordan
Bald Eagle	"	5	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	19	1 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	29	1 Iroquois NWR	Seamans
(all immature birds)				
Northern Harrier	"	1,7	1,2 Town of Stockton	Mosher
"	"	3	2 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	5,15	4,3 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	13,14,15	6,4,5 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
"	"	18	1 Town of Chautauqua	Mosher, Chilton
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	13,14,22	19,27,63 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
"	"	22	52 over Pinehurst	Andrle et al
"	"	26	54 Town of Hanover	Rew, Schaffner
"	"	27	516 Town of Hamburg	Rew et al
"	"	27	30 over Pinehurst	Sundell
Cooper's Hawk	"	1	1 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
"	"	1	1 Salamanca	Baird

Cooper's Hawk	Apr.	2	1 over Pinehurst	Rew, Walker
(cont.)	"	8	1 Town of Stockton	Moshers, Jones
	"	9-30	1-3 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	14,15	1,4 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
	"	26	1 Town of Hanover	Rew, Schaffner
	"	27	2 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	27	3 Town of Hamburg	Rew et al
	"	27	2 over Pinehurst	Sundell
	"	29	1 Belmont	Burtons
Red-should. Hawk	"	1	53 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
	"	2	29 over Pinehurst	Rew, Walker
	"	3	19 Town of Porter	D'Anna, Potter
	"	14,15	6,6 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
*Broad-wing. Hawk	"	15 F,22	41,39 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
	"	15 F,22,28	4,15,145 over Pinehurst	Andrle et al
	"	26	503 Town of Hanover	Rew, Schaffner
	"	26	90 Town of Boston	Chapple
	"	27	762 Town of Hamburg	Rew et al
Red-tailed Hawk	"	1,2	86,18 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
	"	2	42 over Pinehurst	Rew, Walker
	"	13,14,15	37,22,28 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
	"	26	16 Town of Hanover	Rew, Schaffner
	"	27	21 Town of Hamburg	Rew et al
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	1,5,8,10	1,3,4,2 Town of Stockton	Moshers et al
	"	13	2 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
	"	18,21	2 Town of Chautauqua	Moshers, Chilton
	"	26	3 Town of Hanover	Rew, Schaffner
	"	27	2 Town of Hamburg	Rew et al
American Kestrel	"	13,14	5,4 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
	"	26	6 Town of Hanover	Rew, Schaffner
	"	27	4 Town of Hamburg	Rew et al
*Merlin	"	28	2 over Pinehurst	Andrle et al
*Peregrine Falcon	"	29	1 Iroquois NWR	Andrle (BOS)
*Virginia Rail	"	10 F	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	O'Dell
	"	28	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna, Potter
*Sora	"	28 F	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna, Potter
*Common Moorhen	"	15 F	1 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
	"	28	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna et al
	"	29	5 Tifft Farm N.P.	Seamans
*Sandhill Crane	"	27	1 Town of Hamburg	Rew et al
	"	28	1 Burgeson Sanctuary	Sundell et al
			(both adult birds)	
*Black-bell. Plover	"	30 F	2 Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
Greater Yellowlegs	"	10	1 Town of Stockton	Mosher
	"	14	4 Cassadaga	Rew, Buck
	"	17	8 Town of Arkwright	Mosher
*Lesser Yellowlegs	"	14 F	2 Cassadaga	Rew, Buck
	"	17	1 Town of Arkwright	Mosher
	"	20	1 Iroquois NWR	Seamans
	"	28	54 Burgeson Sanctuary	Sundell et al
	"	29	22 Lyndonville	Andrle (BOS)

*Solitary Sandpiper	Apr.	22 F	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Chilton
"	"	27,28	1,1 Belmont	Burtens
"	"	21	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Chilton
*Spotted Sandpiper	"	25 F	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	27	1 Town of Pembroke	Seamans
"	"	27	2 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	27-30	1 Town of Amity	Brooks
"	"	28	2 Tiff Farm N.P.	D'Anna, Potter
*Upland Sandpiper	"	18 F	2 Town of Chautauqua	Mosher, Chilton
"	"	27	2 Fort Erie, Ont.	Chapple
"	"	29	2 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
*Least Sandpiper	"	29 F	3 Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
*Pectoral Sandpiper	"	15 F	8 Smithville, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	29	20 Lyndonville	Andrle (BOS)
"	"	29	65 Iroquois NWR	Andrle (BOS)
*Wilson's Phalarope	"	29	1 Town of Yates	Andrle (BOS)
Bonaparte's Gull	"	10	10 Windmill Point, Ont.	Klepfer
"	"	18	21 Allegany State Pk.	Baird
"	"	28	12 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Little Gull	"	30	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
Glaucous Gull	"	30	3 Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
*Caspian Tern	"	15 F	1 Pinehurst	Andrle
"	"	23	11 Dunkirk	Mosher
Common Tern	"	22	50 Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	30	2 Tiff Farm N.P.	Saville
*Black Tern	"	30	2 Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
Long-eared Owl	"	13	2 Town of Porter	D'Anna, Potter
Short-eared Owl	"	3	1 Town of Shelton	Rosches
*Chimney Swift	"	26 F	12 Fredonia	Mosher
"	"	27	4 over Pinehurst	Sundell
"	"	29	2 Belmont	Pitzrick
"	"	29	6 over Jamestown	Sundell
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	5	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	28	2 Pinehurst	Andrle
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	"	13 F	1 Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	13 F	1 Buffalo	Klepfer
"	"	13 F	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	14	1 Salamanca	Baird
"	"	14,18	1,2 Alfred	Klingensmith
*Least Flycatcher	"	27 F	1 Allegany State Pk.	Baird
"	"	28,29	1,1 Town of Wales	Rosche
"	"	28,29	1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
*Gr.cr. Flycatcher	"	28 F	1 Town of Pembroke	Seamans
"	"	28 F	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Schaffner
*Eastern Kingbird	"	27 F	2 Pinehurst	Andrle
"	"	28	1 Town of Amity	Burtens
*Purple Martin	"	15 F	2 over Pinehurst	Andrle
"	"	16	2 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	17	5 Town of Alabama	Endres

*N. Rough-w. Swallow Apr.	14 F	1 Stockton	Rew, Buck
"	14 F	1 over Pinehurst	Andrle
"	16	2 East Aurora	Becker
*Barn Swallow	1 F-30	1-2 Amity Lake	Pitzrick et al
"	8	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	15,18	1,11 Salamanca	Baird
Boreal Chickadee	3-9	1 Belmont	Burtons
Tufted Titmouse	1-10	1 Spring Brook	Danner
"	1-30	1 Town of Pomfret (f)	Moshers
"	1-30	1-2 Amity Lake	Pitzrick et al
"	4-11	3 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
"	23	1 Portville	Pitzrick
"	27	1 Town of Evans	Andrle
"	27,28	4 Town of Pembroke	Seamans
Red-br. Nuthatch	13,20	1,1 Alfred	Brooks
"	28	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	Saville
"	28	1 Eggertsville	McKale
Brown Creeper	10	1 Orchard Park	Saville
"	13,18	3,1 Alfred	Brooks
Carolina Wren	27	1 Pt. Gratiot	Mosher, Chilton
"	28	1 Alfred	Brooks
"	28	2 Pt. Gratiot	Sundell, Kibler
"	29	2 Portland	Rew
*House Wren	22 F-30	3-4 Spring Brook	Danner
"	28	2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	28	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna et al
"	28,30	1,1 Salamanca	Baird
"	30	1 Fredonia	Mosher
Winter Wren	23	1 Forest Lawn, Bflo.	Hess
"	28	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
"	28	4 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna et al
*Marsh Wren	28 F	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna et al
Golden-cr. Kinglet	13 F,18	2,3 Alfred	Brooks
"	15-29	6-12 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	15,16,27	5,14,2 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	15	1 Jamestown	Sundell
"	19-30	1-5 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	19-30	2 Orchard Park	Saville
"	27	8 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	28,29	2,6 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	28	5 Pt. Gratiot	Sundell, Kibler
"	30	1 Town of Allegany	Eaton
"	30	1 Orchard Park	Saville
Eastern Bluebird	1-30	3-23 Amity & Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
"	8,28	2,2 Town of Chautauqua	Mosher, Schaffner et al
"	9,23-30	2,2 Alfred	Brooks
"	11	5 Town of Amity	Burtons
"	15	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	18,19,27	1,2,4 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	28	1 Town of Clarence	Endres

*Veery	Apr.	28 F	1 Jamestown	Sundell
*Hermit Thrush	"	13 F	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	O'Dell
	"	21	2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	21	2 Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrie
	"	21	1 Alfred	Brooks
*Wood Thrush	"	28 F	1 Town of Wales	Rosches
	"	28 F	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	Saville
	"	28 F	1 Burgeson Sanctuary	Sundell
Gray Catbird	"	28	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
	"	28	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	28	1 Pt. Gratiot	Sundell, Kibler
Northern Mockingbird	"	1	1 Lewiston	Hess
	"	13	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
Brown Thrasher	"	28 F	4 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna et al
	"	28 F	4 Pt. Gratiot	Sundell, Kibler
	"	28 F-30	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	30	1 Eggertsville	Hulls
	"	30	1 Town of Holland	Becker
Water Pipit	"	22	120 Sinclairville	Rew, Buck
*White-eyed Vireo	"	28	1 Pt. Gratiot	Sundell, Kibler
*Solitary Vireo	"	27 F	1 Town of Allegany	Eaton
	"	27 F	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	27 F-30	1-3 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	28	2 Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Schaffner
	"	28	2 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna et al
*Yellow-thr. Vireo	"	28	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna et al
*Warbling Vireo	"	30 F	1 Town of Allegany	Eaton
*Blue-w. Warbler	"	29 F	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
*Nashville Warbler	"	27 F	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	27 F	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	28	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna et al
	"	28	1 Jamestown	Sundell
*Yellow Warbler	"	27 F	2 Pinehurst	Sundell
	"	27 F	2 Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Chilton
	"	28	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	28	5 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	28,30	6,6 Tifft Farm N.P.	Saville
*Magnolia Warbler	"	29 F	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	McKale, Wells
*Cape May Warbler	"	28 F	3 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna et al
	"	30	1 Salamanca	Baird
*Bl.-thr. Blue	"	28 F	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Warbler	"	30	1 Buffalo	Klepfer
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	19 F	1 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
	"	21	2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	27-30	1-11 Amity & Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	27,28,29	10,10,50 Alfred	Brooks
	"	27,28,30	25,25,25 Tifft Farm N.P.	Saville
*Bl.-thr. Gr.	"	27 F	3 Allenberg Bog	Chapple
Warbler	"	28	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Schaffner
	"	28	4 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna et al

Volume 50, No. 5 "April Noteworthy Records" cont.

*Bl.-thr. Gr.	Apr.	28	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Warbler (Cont)	"	28	1 Pt. Gratiot	Sundell, Kibler
	"	28,29	4,6 Alfred	Brooks
Pine Warbler	"	17 F	1 Town of Lewiston	D'Anna, Potter
	"	27	5 Pinehurst	Andrle, Sundell
	"	28	1-5 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna et al
	"	29	1 Eggertsville	McKale, Wells
	"	29	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	McKale, Wells
	"	30	1 Salamanca	Baird
*Palm Warbler	"	27 F	1 Allegany State Pk.	Baird
	"	27 F	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	28	8 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna et al
*Bl.-& w. Warbler	"	28 F	2-4 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna et al
	"	28 F-30	1,1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	29	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	Seamans
Amer. Redstart	"	28 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
*Ovenbird	"	28 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	29 F	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	30	2 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*N. Waterthrush	"	27 F	1 Town of Pembroke	Seamans
	"	27 F	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	29	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	McKale
*La. Waterthrush	"	21 F, 26	1,1 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	28	1 Allegany State Pk.	Baird
*Common Yellowthroat	"	29 F, 30	1,1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	30	1 Orchard Park	Saville
*Rose-br. Grosbeak	"	29 F	1 Burgeson Sanctuary	Kibler
Rufous-s. Towhee	"	20 F-30	2-8 Town of Amity	Pitzrick, Adams
	"	27	1 Allegany State Pk.	Baird
	"	28	9 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna et al
Am. Tree Sparrow	"	2-28 L	3-5 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
Chipping Sparrow	"	13-30	1-4 Alfred	Brooks
	"	14	1 Town of Pomfret (f)	Mosher
Vesper Sparrow	"	8	2 Town of Stockton	Mosher, Jones
	"	11	4 Town of Amity	Burtens
*Henslow's Sparrow	"	28 F	1 Alfred	Brooks
Fox Sparrow	"	5-18	1-2 Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	13	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	O'Dell
	"	13-15	1 Buffalo	Klepfer
	"	14-25	1-3 Darien Center (f)	Harper
	"	14-24	2 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	19	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	26	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
Swamp Sparrow	"	14	11 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	15	1 Allegany State Pk.	Baird
White-thr. Sparrow	"	15 F	3 Jamestown	Sundell
	"	18-30	1-3 Eggertsville	Hulls
	"	18	1 Eggertsville (f)	McKale
	"	29	10 Farmersville Sta.	D. Clark

White-cr. Sparrow	Apr.	26 F	1 Jamestown	Sundell
"	"	27-30	1 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	"	27	1 Allegany State Pk.	Baird
"	"	28	1 Town of Portland	Mosher, Schaffner
Dark-eyed Junco	"	12,26	40,40 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	13	50 Town of Angelica	Burtons, Jordan
"	"	13	35 Alfred	Klingensmith
*Bobolink	"	29 F	2 Burgeson Sanctuary	Sundell, Kibler
"	"	30	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
Yellow-h. Blackbird	"	24	1 Fredonia	Flory
*Northern Oriole	"	30	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	Saville
Pine Siskin	"	7,30	1,4 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
"	"	16,29	1 Town of Pomfret (f)	Mosher
"	"	27	1 Pinehurst	Sundell
"	"	28	1 Pt. Gratiot	Sundell, Kibler
"	"	28,29,30	2,4,6 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
Evening Grosbeak	"	1-30	15-30 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	1-29	1-3 Farmersville Sta.	D. Clark
"	"	1-28	4-10 Darien Center (f)	Harper
"	"	1-30	4-25 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick, Adams
"	"	1-30	1-20 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	1-30	25 Town of Holland	Becker
"	"	3-30	30-60 Town of Wales (f)	Rosches
"	"	19,30	25,20 Salamanca	Baird

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.	127*
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue. (incl. 8 on count). . .	<u>67</u>
Total for year	194

*Incl. 2 inadvertently omitted from January - Rock Dove, Morning Dove.

* * * * *

REPORT - APRIL BIRD COUNT

Date: April 8, 1984

Compiled by Tom Harper

Weather: Temperature of 32° in the morning rising to 50° in the afternoon. Sunny with winds out of the northwest 5-15 mph.

Compilation: Following is a list of species recorded on the count and the total numbers of each. Figures in parentheses indicate section numbers where species were recorded in three or fewer sections. Underlined common names indicate that acceptable written verifications were required and submitted. An asterisk indicates first 1984 record for B.O.S. territory.

Loons - Ruddy Duck

Red-throated Loon - 1 (5)
Common Loon - 15
Pied-billed Grebe - 15
Horned Grebe - 45
Great Blue Heron - 176
Great Egret - 1 (5)
Tundra Swan - 139
Snow Goose - 9 (5,13)
Canada Goose - 68,050
Wood Duck - 162
Green-winged Teal - 27
Amer. Black Duck - 106
Mallard - 1164
Northern Pintail - 268
Blue-winged Teal - 97
Northern Shoveler - 15
Gadwall - 34

Amer. Wigeon - 174
Canvasback - 186
Redhead - 72
Ring-necked Duck - 249
Greater Scaup - 668
Lesser Scaup - 146
Scaup Sp. - 3
Oldsquaw - 241
Black Scoter - 11 (4)
White-winged Scoter - 40
Common Goldeneye - 525
Bufflehead - 538
Hooded Merganser - 250
Common Merganser - 802
Red-breasted Merganser - 2,264
*Ruddy Duck - 21 F
Duck Sp. - 8

Vultures - Rails

Turkey Vulture - 269
Osprey - 5 (17,20,23)
Bald Eagle - 5
Northern Harrier - 55
Sh.-shinned Hawk - 19
Cooper's Hawk - 16
Northern Goshawk - 1 (1)
Red-shouldered Hawk - 26

Red-tailed Hawk - 288
Rough-legged Hawk - 60
Amer. Kestrel - 239
Ring-necked Pheasant - 20
Ruffed Grouse - 35
Wild Turkey - 72
Amer. Coot - 20

Shorebirds

Killdeer - 572
*Greater Yellowlegs - 3 F (5,6)

Common Snipe - 43
Amer. Woodcock - 25

Gulls - Flycatchers

Bonaparte's Gull - 860
Ring-billed Gull - 11,990
Herring Gull - 988
Glaucous Gull - 1 (3)
Great Bl.-back Gull - 87
Gull Sp. - 18
*Common Tern - 4 F (20)
Rock Dove - 1,951
Mourning Dove - 1,051
Eastern Screech-Owl - 1 (10)
Great Horned Owl - 23

Barred Owl - 4 (14,24,28)
Long-eared Owl - 4 (3,6,8)
Belted Kingfisher - 76
Red-headed Woodpecker - 11
Red-bellied Woodpecker - 33
Yell.-bellied Sapsucker - 1 (28)
Gray Woodpecker - 337
Black Woodpecker - 111
Northern Flicker - 59
Pileated Woodpecker - 17
Eastern Phoebe - 51

Larks - Starling

Horned Lark (undif. ssp.) - 175
H. Lark (E.a. alpestris) - 20
H. Lark (E.a. praticola) - 29
Tree Swallow - 252
Barn Swallow - 1 (5)
Blue Jay - 700
Amer. Crow - 2,763
Bl.-cap. Chickadee - 1,642
Boreal Chickadee - 1 (28)
Tufted Titmouse - 44
Red-br. Nuthatch - 22
White-br. Nuthatch - 271
Brown Creeper - 25

Carolina Wren - 1 (23)
Winter Wren - 10 (11,28)
Golden-cr. Kinglet - 31
*Ruby-cr. Kinglet - 4 (14)
*Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 1 (28)
Eastern Bluebird - 50
Amer. Robin - 7,647
*Gray Catbird - 4 (16,24)
Northern Mockingbird - 5
Brown Thrasher - 1 (24)
Water Pipit - 527 (13,19)
Cedar Waxwing - 165
Starling - 17,667

Warblers - Finches

Yellow-rumped Warbler - 2 (14)
Northern Cardinal - 691
Rufous-sided Towhee - 8 (28)
Amer. Tree Sparrow - 673
*Chipping Sparrow - 25
Field Sparrow - 21
*Vesper Sparrow - 10 (13,20,28)
Savannah Sparrow - 39
Fox Sparrow - 17
Song Sparrow - 2,693
Swamp Sparrow - 10
Wh.-thr. Sparrow - 93
Wh.-cr. Sparrow - 11

Dark-eyed Junco - 1,179
Red-winged Blackbird - 11,511
Eastern Meadowlark - 191
Rusty Blackbird - 173
Common Grackle - 11,281
Br.-headed Cowbird - 1,252
Purple Finch - 77
House Finch - 880
Pine Siskin - 2 (1)
Amer. Goldfinch - 990
Evening Grosbeak - 1,023
House Sparrow - 3,455

Total Species	121
Total Individuals	164,838

Comments: Pied-billed Grebe 15 (10 year low), Green-winged Teal 27 (10 year low), Lesser Scaup 146 (10 year low), Bald Eagle 5 (10 year high), Red-shouldered Hawk 26 (10 year high), Rough-leg Hawk 60 (10 year high), Ring-necked Pheasant 20 (10 year low), Amer. Coot 20 (10 year low), Great Bl.-b. Gull 87 (10 year high), Rock Dove 1951 (10 year high), Red-bellied Woodpecker 33 (10 year high), Yellow-b. Sapsucker 1 (10 year low), Northern Flicker 59 (10 year low), Barn Swallow 1 (10 year low), Bl.-cap. Chickadee 1,642 (10 year high), Tufted Titmouse 44 (10 year high), White-br. Nuthatch 271 (10 year high), Golden-cr. Kinglet 31 (10 year low), Northern Mockingbird 5 (10 year high), Northern Cardinal 691 (10 year high), Swamp Sparrow 10 (10 year low), House Finch 880 (all time high).

Sections and Observers: The compiler would like to thank all the section compilers and observers who made this count a success. In the list that follows, compilers names are underlined.

1. Fonthill, Ont. Jerry Chapple, Alan Smith.
2. Thorold, Ont. Gary Novosel.
3. Wilson, N.Y. Walter & Harriette Klabunde, Betsy Potter, Wm. D'Anna, Ann Miranian.
4. Middleport, N.Y. Robert Brock, Marge Harwitz.
5. Oak Orchard, N.Y. Dick Christensen, Peggy Christensen, Bill Burch, Jeff Zehr, Morgan Jones, Marion Smith.
6. Port Maitland, Ont. Ed Williams, Petrik, Robert Andriele, Joseph Thill.
7. Lowbank, Ont. Blaine Farnan, Dr. & Mrs. White, Robert Chohe, Mal Hilton.
8. Fort Erie, Ont. Mike Zebehazy, Art Schaffner.
9. Grand Island, N.Y. Karen Renning, Jack Wright, Marge Wright.
10. Akron, N.Y. Marc Chelemer, Margaret Schmid, Dick Byron.
11. Buffalo, N.Y. Peggy Daniels, Robert & Pauline Schwartz, Brad Lown, Robert Cotsen, Lee Clukey.
12. Lancaster, N.Y. Marie Wendling, Ann Bauer, Dorothy & Fred Danner, Ray Franz, Tom Harper.
13. Batavia, N.Y. George Mahaney, Don Thureau, Dave Keller, Robert & Eileen Hull.
14. Hamburg, N.Y. Barbara Walker, Abbott, Brody, Branders, Bigelow, Firey, Howard, Hunley, Kern, Leonard, Mauser, O'Dell, Orfeo, Pickett, Saville, Stohl.
15. Java, N.Y. Bill Bogacki, Esther Becker, Art & Olga Rosche.
16. Angola, N.Y. Frances Rew, Lois Buck, Paul & Arlene Smith.
17. Cattaraugus, N.Y. Wavel & Maxine Barber, David Bigelow, Janice McDonnell.
18. Delevan, N.Y. Don & Jane Clark.

19. Fillmore, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Katherine Palmer, Mr. & Mrs. Howard Lang, Donald Goodsell, Gen & Les Fish, Helen Morse, Mr. & Mrs. Roger Nicholson, Jean Perry, Vesta Rice, Marian & Emmette Smith, Midge & H.K. Smith, Kenneth Boon, Victor Carpenter, Alice Evans, Mr. & Mrs. Marion Spencer, Larry Wilson, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Wilson.
20. Dunkirk, N.Y. Lake Erie Bird Club, Terry Mosher, Nancy Bowser, Jeanine Flory, Kevin Fox, Joanne Goetz, Joe Gula, Morgan Jones, Judy & Phil Kumler, Terry Mahoney, Dick Miga, Judy Mosher, Bev Ruska, Marty Sanden, Paul & Ruth Steese, Tom Welch, Sr., Tom Welch, Jr., Louise Wood.
21. Cherry Creek, NY Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Cretchen & Otto Carlson, David Dister, David Gagne, Julie Heilman, Dorothy Pihlblad, Carol Roby, Susan Suckow, Marion Werner.
22. Sherman, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, David Dister, David Gagne, Linda & William O'Brien.
23. Frewsburg, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, David Dister, David Gagne, Frank Gardner, Chris Maggio, Stephen Maggio, Joane Nelson, Jean Pigman, Thomas Simmons, Thomas Simmons, Jr., Rose Mary Wilcox.
24. Allegany State Park, N.Y. Mary & John Forness, Bill Forness, Tim Baird.
25. Allegany, N.Y. Tim Baird, Lucille Bordonaro, Margaret & Charles Green, Dorothy Baker, Regina & James Van Scoy.
26. Cuba, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Lou Burton, Ann & Morris Scott, Betty & John Compton, Sylvia Foster, Sharon Baumgardner.
27. Bolivar, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Betty & Jim Hooker, Marjorie & Robert Richmond, Frances DeGroff, Sharon Baumgardner, Helen Apsey, Harold Babcock, Helen Link.
28. Alfred, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Elizabeth Brooks, Lois Chapman, Dorothy Bayless, Connor Stevens, Vivian Pitzrick & Erma Larson (Co-compilers). Russell Allen, Carla Coch, Jim Copenheaver, Lavina Creighton, Ann Eisenhardt, Agnes & Everett Rhodes, Peter & Terry Finlay, Eva Ford, Peter Gradoni, Clarence Klingensmith, Ellen Lamb, Mark Larson, Cathy MacDonald, Beverly Perry, Daniel Rase, Sue Wood, Doris Hurlburt, Emma Lou King, Lillian & Stella Simons, Charlott Anderson, Esther Biehl, Lorna, Don & Tara Brink, Martha DeLaVergne, Jay & Louise Gibson, Kay & Ben Heller, Tim Phelan, Violet Sharret, Allen & Gladys Witter, Bea Common,

28. Alfred, N.Y.
(cont.)

Wisner Cook, Kathy Kent, Ken & Marian McClure, Bill Walker, Harold Ward, Mary & Mallory Adams, Doris & Lou Burton, Ray Pitzrick, Sharon Baumgardner, Vera Brown, Roberta Clark, Dale & Evelyn Coats, Mary Alice & Paul Fuller, Claribel James, Genevieve McQueen, Lynn & Ernest Rositzke, Bernadean Stein, Lorena & Theodore Vossler, Myrtle Brown, Carl & Betty Burdick, Helen Graves, Muriel Kruger, Helen Shear, Ruth Smith, Gordon & Wilma Taggart, Bruce & Wilma Taggart, Fran Thompson, Evelyn Openhym, Ona & David Reynolds.

903 Broadway, Darien Center, NY 14040

* * * * *

"WELCOME NEW MEMBERS"

Welcome to new Associate Members Mr. and Mrs. Alan Kraft, 236 Crowley Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14207 (Tel. 873-6146). Alan and Lois are both Medical Technologists at St. Mary's Hospital in Lewiston, N.Y.

* * * * *

TO A WOODLAND THRUSH

by Edmund J. Sawyer

Dweller in coolest woodland bowers;
Spokesman for timid wildwood flowers;
Knower of what the ferns would say,
And darksome pines as they sigh and sway;--
These find in you when darkness fades,
Yet lingers in their woodland shades,
The poet of their mute appeal--
A voice for all they strangely feel.
And in your later anthem, lo!
Are glories of a sunset-glow
Which touch your song with wizard fire
And link your voice with an unseen choir.
When, hushed, the dim-lit vernal wood
Seems rapt, as in a prayerful mood,
And dewy censer scent of flower
Hallows the stilly vesper hour,
Gently, softly you touch the strings,--
Timid, throbbing, soulful things.
Can e'en you feel you are but dust,
Nor worthy of your lofty trust?
Matchless talent, minstrel peerless:--
Unrestrained now, and fearless,

The rapture swells your wondrous throat,
Then shapes itself in a silvery note
That grows in volume sweet and clear,
Working its witchery on the ear,
Pulsing, lingering, waning, then --
Hark! 'tis the miracle o'er again,
And yet again, and o'er and o'er,
As conscious of exhaustless store.

from Poems of Nature and Wildlife

by Edmund J. Sawyer

copyright 1930

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"IN EXCHANGE"

Reports and News Gleaned From the Newsletters of Several
Birding Organizations with which the B.O.S. Exchanges Publications

by Marian Dornhaffer

We are now receiving copies of The Wren's Ramblings, a publication of the Lake Erie Bird Club of North Chautauqua County. The March issue contains an interesting account of an Atlas Project trip to W. Mud Lake near Villanova. Terry Mosher and Art Schaffner, by means of tapes, called forth one of the rarest breeders in upstate N.Y. -- a King Rail. This should be an encouragement to Atlas workers. This group also claims a first N.Y. State record for a MacGillivray's Warbler, and a fall high of 2300 Tundra Swans on Chautauqua Lake in November.

The Allegany County Bird Club News reported a March sighting of a Boreal Chickadee as well as a possible Peregrine Falcon. An Evening Grosbeak banded by Betsy Brooks in Alfred was found in Quebec, 500 miles away.

The Cleveland Bird Club began its 80th year of publication. It is interesting to note that the Lesser Black-backed and Thayer's Gulls, once unusual visitors have become so common that the game now is to note plumage sequences. A Barrows Goldeneye sighted for three days in January was the first acceptable sighting, not only for the area, but also for the state of Ohio. Unusual winter sightings included a Pomerine Jaeger.

According to the March Audubon Naturalist News, Washington, trailing New York State, is just now considering a bottle bill. Furthermore, in a study on a yearly census of breeding birds, Shirley Briggs, naturalist, reports a loss of neotropical migrants beginning in the mid 1960's.

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MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

September 12th: Summer Bird Experiences: All members of the Society are invited to relate their birding exploits since the June meeting. Feel free to bring slides, tape recordings, photos, or just good stories to share with other members.

September 26th: Tom Harper "Effects of Hunting Laws on Wildlife." What effect on bird populations has hunting had? How have the refuges designed for the breeding of Canada Geese and ducks helped or hurt other forms of wildlife? And just how many birds do the hunters take? These questions and related issues will be explored.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman, (885-0474, Buffalo, N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

July 29th: North Shore of Lake Erie. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Vermont and Busti, or 8:15 a.m. at 1st parking lot south of the Peace Bridge. Leader: Dr. Harold Axtell, (416) 871-6999.

August 26th: Niagara River and Canadian Shore of Lake Erie; a joint trip with the Genesee Ornithological Society. Meet at Vermont and Busti at 8:30 a.m. Leaders: Esther Becker, B.O.S., (537-2592) and Anne Clarridge (G.O.S.).

For further information about field trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairman (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES:

Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

\$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Shirley Wake (typing).

Editorial Board: Marian Dornhaffer, Bradley Lown,
Julia Wells

EDITOR:

Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



CAYUGA LAKE

ANDY DASINGER

Federation of New York State Bird Clubs

Annual Meeting

Sept. 7, 8, & 9

Sheraton Inn

Ithaca, NY

Program:

Fri. • 12:00-5:00 Registration

• 5:30 - Complimentary wine
& cheese reception

• 6:30 - Dinner followed by
workshops

Sat. • Bird walks, tours, delegation
meeting and papers

• 7:00 - Banquet and featured
speaker

Sun. • Check-out and bird walks

SAVE THE DATE!

Cayuga Bird Club
c/o Laboratory of Ornithology
Sapsucker Woods Rd.
Ithaca, NY 14853

ANNUAL MEETING
FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS
September 7-9, 1984
Host: Cayuga Bird Club, Ithaca, New York

Meetings and registration are at the Sheraton Inn & Conference Center. Housing is at the Sheraton, overflow at the Holiday Inn.

Preregistration: Due in Ithaca July 31. Rooms will be released after this date.

			<u>Total</u>
REGISTRATION FEE, per person.....	\$10.00*		
*Early bird discount, if paid by June 30.....	8.00		
*Student rate.....	5.00		
			\$

HOUSING AND MEALS--PACKAGE RATES

Includes: Room for Friday and Saturday

Wine and Cheese Reception

Dinner Friday, Lunch and Banquet Saturday

() Single \$125.00

() Double \$ 87.50 per person = \$175.00**

§

****Please note:** To benefit from these reduced rates, you must pre-register and pay for the total package as a group by July 31. Find your own roommate. Neither the Cayuga Bird Club nor the Sheraton will match requests for multiple housing.

MEALS ONLY (for those not needing room reservations)

()	Friday buffet dinner	\$12.50	x no. of persons	—	=	\$
()	Saturday lunch	\$ 7.50	x no. of persons	—	=	\$
()	Saturday banquet	\$20.00	x no. of persons	—	=	\$

About other meals: Breakfasts will be on your own. The Sheraton will have an early bird special for those going on the bird walks. Others may order their breakfast in the dining room, which opens at 6:30 a.m.

TOTAL DUE \$_____

Make check payable to: Cayuga Bird Club, Treasurer.
After completing this form, mail it and your check, to
reach us by July 31, to: Cayuga Bird Club, Treasurer
c/o Laboratory of Ornithology
159 Sapsucker Woods Road
Ithaca, New York 14850

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____
 _____ Last _____ First _____ Initial _____ Name for name tag _____

Address _____ Telephone _____

Are you a delegate? Bird Club

Name(s) and address(es) of roommate(s)/Name for name tag/Delegate?

02
271
296
50
6
84



THE PROTHONOTARY

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 50

JUNE 1984

NUMBER 6

THE MONTH

May was a miserable month even for the Niagara Frontier, an area not remarkable of late for its pleasant spring weather. Rainfall totaled 4.66 inches, 1.78 inches above average; the average temperature for the month was 52.9°(F), 3.2° below normal. Indeed, no temperature in the 70°(F) range was reached until May 21st and after five days of seasonal spring weather, a cold front on the 26th again drove the thermometer down to below normal readings to end the month on a decidedly chilly note. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

In spite of the insalubrious weather, our correspondent Tim Baird of Salamanca summarized the month of May most appropriately from the point of view of the bird-watcher: "...if one finds birds an interest, there is nothing, including bad weather that can make May a dismal month!" Most of the comments received by this writer tend to echo Baird's sentiments as our study area enjoyed the best late spring migration of small passerines in some years although some observers remarked on the low numbers or virtual absence of certain species. Don Clark, who has operated a bird-banding station at Farmersville Station in Cattaraugus County for many years writes that his nets yielded no flycatchers or vireos and thrushes were below average in numbers. However, Morgan Jones, a bander at Fredonia in Chautauqua County was exuberant in his assessment of the May migration: "The migration was late but when it arrived, it made up for the delay in quality and quantity. I had the best spring banding ever in five years in Fredonia...over 200 warblers of 20 species." Jones also remarked on the banding of 13 Lincoln's Sparrows between May 10th and 21st, whereas the average number of this species in previous spring passages was only four or five birds. Arthur Clark of the Buffalo Museum of Science, who receives most of the 'Deal-a-Bird' calls there, remarked on the unseasonably cool weather in May delaying, but not stopping the bird migration. With the advent of warm southerly winds on May 20th, significant flights were in evidence in all sections of our study area.

Among the many interesting observations in May, the writer has gleaned a few to illustrate the variety of species seen in our study area this month.

On May 7th, Flora and Theodore Elderkin observed two Red-throated Loons on Quaker Lake in Allegany State Park. The birds, noticeably smaller than Common Loons, were still in their drab, drab gray winter plumage with lighter gray necks and the diagnostic upturned bills clearly visible. On May 16th, another Red-throated Loon was seen by the Elderkins on Red House Lake in the park. This bird had a slightly speckled back and again the upturned bill was seen to confirm the identification. The loon was seen again the following day by Mrs. Elderkin and Elizabeth Pillsbury. The Elderkins also reported a flock of 45 Brant on Quaker Lake on May 14th.

Donald Enders of Basom counted 105 Great Blue Herons feeding at the Cayuga Pool on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on May 20th. On May 19th, Bob Somerville of Fort Erie counted four Cattle Egrets in a field at Bowen and Ridge Roads in that township. Delores and Gail Seamans reported a White-fronted Goose on N.Y. Route #33 in a field in the Town of Pembroke in Genesee County on May 2nd.

On May 13th, Vivian and Raymond Pitzrick saw an adult American Avocet feeding in a flooded pasture on N.Y. Route #19, approximately two miles north of Belvidere in the Town of Angelica in Allegany County. The diagnostic long, slender, upturned bill, the rusty colored neck and head contrasting with the black and white body were all clearly visible. The avocet was also seen later on this date by Doris and Lou Burton and Mary Jordan and Clarence Klingensmith. It is the first record of this rare vagrant for Allegany County. On May 23rd, Elizabeth Brooks drove to the Village of Almond in Allegany County where she had been summoned by Harold Ward to identify a strange gallinaceous bird he had observed feeding on the lawn of a residence there. Mrs. Brooks saw the bird which was a little smaller and decidedly slimmer in body contour than a Ruffed Grouse; it had a distinctive orange bill and legs and zebra-like dark stripes on the body. She identified the bird as a Chukar, an exotic species of game bird which has been successfully introduced in the western United States and British Columbia and also released by the D.E.C. and sportsmen groups in several locations in Western New York in the past forty years in unsuccessful attempts to establish a viable breeding population here. Mrs. Brooks speculates that the bird she saw possibly had been released in a game preserve not far from the Village of Andover. Elizabeth Brooks also writes that for the fifth time in twelve months she recorded a Common Raven in the State Reforestation Area at the junction of the Brown Road and the Vandermark Road in the Town of Ward in Allegany County. While she did not see the bird as she was in a thick grove of pine trees, Mrs. Brooks heard the unmistakable hoarse croaking call of this species. The question now seems to be: who will document the Common Raven as a breeding species in our study area?

There were interesting encounters with White-eyed Vireos in May. On May 28th, Terry Mosher heard the song of a White-eyed Vireo emanating from heavy roadside shrubbery of blackberry, viburnum and wild grape on the Sage Road in the Town of Pomfret in Chautauqua County but he was unable to get a glimpse of the bird. He returned to the scene later with a taped song of the species which lured the vireo out of the heavy underbrush and to land, greatly agitated, in a sapling not fifteen

feet from the observer. Unfortunately, no further evidence of nesting behavior or a female bird was forthcoming. On May 20th, Tim Baird located a singing White-eyed Vireo west of Salamanca and one or possibly two White-eyes at another site on the 27th. Baird feels that one bird was definitely on territory but it was not seen after June 4th.

Vivian Pitzrick writes that on May 31st she walked through a conifer plantation on Reddy Road in the Town of Amity to see if Prairie Warblers, which had nested at this site for several years, had returned. She traced an ascending chromatic series of notes to two 'chickadee-sized' birds busily feeding along apple tree boughs which she recognized as a pair of Prairie Warblers, a species with which she has become most familiar in recent years in the course of her nest-finding activities in late spring and early summer. Mrs. Pitzrick also located a second pair of Prairie Warblers in a hawthorne shrub by tracing a series of ascending chromatic notes. The most unusual parulid record in May was that of two rare Yellow-throated Warblers visiting the feeder maintained by Lucile and Bob Leonard at their residence in Hamburg on the 1st. On that unseasonably cold date, the birds were seen at the feeder eating bits of sunflower seeds on several occasions between 12:15 and 6:00 p.m. by the Leonards and Bob Andrie who was called to the scene to confirm their exciting observation. One bird was distinctly more pale in coloration than its companion but unmistakably a Yellow-throated Warbler.

A rare summer casual visitor, an adult male Summer Tanager was seen by Ward Klepfer in the woods and underbrush of the abandoned Erie Beach Amusement Park in the Town of Fort Erie on May 19th. Klepfer first spotted the bird on a footpath in the park and noted that it was 'tanager shape and size' and a uniform subdued red in color in comparison to its gaudy congener, the Scarlet Tanager. He concluded that it was an adult male Summer Tanager and a life bird for his list. His identification was confirmed by Bob Andrie and Dick Byron and a third observer, Norman Alexander of Fort Erie, a short time later. Upon returning to the park on the following day, Klepfer and several other bird-watchers saw the tanager again. A second year male Summer Tanager was reported on May 20th by Morgan Jones at the Point Gratiot Lighthouse near Dunkirk.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY 14217

* * * * *

MAY NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

<u>Red-throated Loon</u>	May	5	1 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
	"	7,16	2,1 Allegany State Pk.	Elderkins
	"	17	1 Allegany State Pk.	Elderkin
Common Loon	"	6	2 Wilson	Hess
	"	9	1 Allegany State Pk.	Baird
	"	18,21	1,2 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	28	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	11,23	1,6 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	16	2 Allegany State Pk.	Elderkins
	"	21	1 Niagara River, Bflo.	Hess
	"	26	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Klepfer
*Great Egret	"	10	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Chilton
	"	22	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
*Cattle Egret	"	19	4 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
Tundra Swan	"	11-20	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	22 L	5 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Mute Swan	"	5,12	1,1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Andrle et al
*Brant	"	14	45 Allegany State Pk.	Elderkins
	"	26	1 Niagara Falls	D'Anna
	"	28	4 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
No. Shoveler	"	6	2 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
Ruddy Duck	"	4,13	2,4 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Osprey	"	5,11	1,1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	10	1 Farmersville Sta.	D. Clark
	"	10,15	1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	17	2 Town of Villenova	Mosher et al
	"	23	1 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
Bald Eagle	"	1,22,23	1,1,1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
		(all immature birds)		
	"	14	1 Town of Wales	Rosches et al
		(adult bird)		
	"	27	3 Iroquois NWR	Endres
		(2 imm., 1 adult)		
Cooper's Hawk	"	1	1 Allegany State Pk.	Baird
	"	1-31	1-3 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	6	1 Town of Stockton	Mosher, Kumler

Cooper's Hawk	May	10	1 Town of Wales	Rosches
(cont.)	"	10	1 Olean	Pitzrick, Brooks
	"	17	1 Town of Arkwright	Mosher et al
	"	31	1 Salamanca	Baird
*Chukar	"	23	1 Andover	Brooks, Ward
			(possible escape)	
Sora	"	14,17	1,2 Mud Lake	Mosher et al
Common Moorhen	"	6	1 Falconer	Sundell, Gagne
Black-bell. Plover	"	5	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Jones
Semipalm. Plover	"	26	6 Cherry Creek	Rew, Buck
	"	27	7 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	28	1 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
*American Avocet	"	13	1 Town of Angelica	Pitzricks, Burtons, Klingensmith
*Whimbrel	"	28	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle et al
Ruddy Turnstone	"	24	6 Windmill Point, Ont.	Rew
	"	31	4 Erie Beach, Ont.	Rosches
*Red Knot	"	24 F	1 Windmill Point, Ont.	Rew
Sanderling	"	31	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Rosches
Semi-palm. Sandpiper	"	28	63 Morgan's Point, Ont.	Andrle et al
Least Sandpiper	"	6,11,27	7,23,85 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	26	14 Cherry Creek	Rew, Buck
*W-rump. Sandpiper	"	28 F	1 Morgan's Point, Ont.	Andrle
*Dunlin	"	13 F	2 Fort Erie, Ont.	Klepfer
	"	19	10 Town of Kiantone	Sundell
*Short-b. Dowitcher	"	18 F	10 Port Colborne, Ont.	Klepfer
Gr. Black-b. Gull	"	28	25 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
Glaucous Gull	"	13	1 Silver Creek	Rew
Caspian Tern	"	28	10 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
Black Tern	"	1	2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	2	10 Darien	Seamans
Black-b. Cuckoo	"	26-31	1-2 Town of Amity	Pitzricks
	"	29	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Yellow-b. Cuckoo	"	26 F,28	1,1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	27	1 Salamanca	Baird
Common Nighthawk	"	26	4 Iroquois NWR	Seamans
	"	27,31	1,1 Salamanca	Baird
*Ruby-t. Hummingbird	"	9 F-31	1-3 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	12	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	12	1 Belmont	Burtons
	"	12	1 Elma	Forsberg
	"	12	1 Jamestown	Sundell
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	15,19	1,1 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
	"	26	1 Point Gratiot	Flory
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	11,27	1,1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	25	1 Point Gratiot	Rew, Buck
Olive-s. Flycatcher	"	21	1 Town of Cold Spring	Elderkins
	"	27	1 Town of Holland	Becker
*Eastern Wood-Pewee	"	11 F-31	1-4 Amity Lake	Pitzrick

Yellow-b. Flycatcher	May	26	2 Ft. Niagara St. Pk.	D'Anna
"	"	27	1 Allenberg Bog	Chapple
*Acadian Flycatcher	"	17 F	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher et al
(previously documented location)				
*Alder Flycatcher	"	19 F	1 Jamestown	Sundell
"	"	23-31	2-10 Amity Lake	Pitzricks
*Willow Flycatcher	"	19 F	1 Jamestown	Sundell
"	"	19 F	1 Tiffit Farm N.P.	Andrle et al
"	"	22	1 Springville	O'Dell
Gr.-cr. Flycatcher	"	2	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
*Cliff Swallow	"	12 F	1 Point Gratiot	Mosher, Harper
"	"	14, 17	1, 3 Mud Lake	Mosher et al
"	"	16	4 Allegany State Pk.	Elderkins
Common Raven	"	3	1 Town of Ward	Brooks
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-31	1-2 Town of Pomfret (f)	Mosher
"	"	2	2 Town of Pembroke	Seamans
"	"	3, 6	2, 2 Salamanca	Baird
"	"	5	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	5-22	1-3 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	11	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	11	2 Ft. Niagara St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	14	1 Town of Ward	Pitzrick
"	"	18	1 Town of Batavia	Endres
Carolina Wren	"	17, 31	1, 1 Point Gratiot	Mosher et al
Winter Wren	"	21	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-31	36 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	6	2 Chautauqua Twp.	Mosher et al
"	"	11-31	1-5 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	19	1 Point Gratiot	Mosher
"	"	23	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	27	2 Town of Ashford	Rosches
Veery	"	6	2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
*Gray-ch. Thrush	"	6 F	1 Salamanca	Baird
"	"	22	3 Buffalo	Hess
*Swainson's Thrush	"	2 F	1 Fredonia	Mosher, Chilton
"	"	9, 11	2, 1 Ft. Niagara St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
Northern Mockingbird	"	22	1 Westfield	Goetz, Flory
Water Pipit	"	8	5 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
White-eyed Vireo	"	25	1 Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	28	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher et al
"	"	29	2 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Yellow-thr. Vireo	"	2	1 Town of Pembroke	Seamans
Warbling Vireo	"	2	1 Town of Pembroke	Seamans
*Philadelphia Vireo	"	19 F	1 Jamestown	Sundell
"	"	24	3 Mud Lake, Ont.	Rew
"	"	27	1 Delaware Pk., Bflo.	Wendling et al
*Red-eyed Vireo	"	12 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	21-31	2-5 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Blue-w. Warbler	"	9-31	1-4 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	9	1 Town of Redhouse	Baird

*Golden-w. Warbler	May	12 F	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	21	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	O'Dell
Brewster's Warbler	"	24	1 Town of Holland	Becker, Bogacki
*Tennessee Warbler	"	10 F	1 Buffalo	Rew et al
"	"	12	1 Point Gratiot	Mosher, Harper
*Orange-cr. Warbler	"	9 F	1 Ft. Niagara St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	17,18	1,1 Fredonia	Jones
"	"	21	1 Canadaway Creek N.S.	Mosher, Bowser
*Northern Parula	"	12 F	1 Canadaway Creek N.S.	Mosher, Bowser
"	"	31	1 Salamanca	Baird
Yellow Warbler	"	12	13 Point Gratiot	Mosher, Harper
*Chestnut-s. Warbler	"	9 F	1 Belmont	Burtions
"	"	9 F	1 Salamanca	Baird
"	"	11	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Magnolia Warbler	"	5-31	1-10 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	20	9 Alfred	Klingensmith
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	11	36 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Blackburnian Warbler	"	6 F	1 Salamanca	Baird
"	"	13	1 Jamestown	Sundell
*Yellow-thr. Warbler	"	1	2 Town of Hamburg (f)	Andrle, Leonards
*Prairie Warbler	"	12 F, 31	2,4 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	17,30	1,2 Alfred	Brooks
(previously documented breeding areas)				
*Bay-br. Warbler	"	13 F	1 Niagara Falls	Potter
"	"	19	2 Jamestown	Sundell
Blackpoll Warbler	"	24	2 Mud Lake, Ont.	Rew
"	"	24 F	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	26	2 Fredonia	Flory
*Cerulean Warbler	"	7 F	1 Chestnut Ridge Pk.	O'Dell
"	"	19	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	25	4 Salamanca	Baird
American Redstart	"	6	1 Salamanca	Baird
*Mourning Warbler	"	19 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	19 F	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
"	"	22	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Hooded Warbler	"	6 F	1 Forest Lawn, Bflo.	Thill
"	"	13,14	2,1 Niagara Falls	Potter
"	"	13	1 Salamanca	Baird
*Wilson's Warbler	"	13 F	1 Town of Evans	Rew
"	"	21	1 Town of Pomfret	Flory
*Canada Warbler	"	13 F	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	27	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Yellow-br. Chat	"	23 F	1-2 Canadaway Creek N.S.	Mosher
"	"	26,30	1,1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher et al
"	"	27	1 Town of Ellicott	Sundell
*Summer Tanager	"	19,20	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Klepfer, Andrle et al.
*Scarlet Tanager	"	16 F-31	1-3 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	22	1 Salamanca	Baird
Rose-br. Grosbeak	"	4,5	1,1 Belmont	Burtions

Vesper Sparrow	May	2	1 Alfred	Brooks
Grasshopper Sparrow	"	26,27	1,2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	27	1 Town of Ellicott	Sundell
Henslow's Sparrow	"	7	1 Town of Ward	Pitzrick
*Lincoln's Sparrow	"	9 F,11	1,2 Ft. Niagara St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	12,19	2,1 Jamestown	Sundell
Yellow-h. Blackbird	"	11	1 Town of Hamburg	McNeil
Northern Oriole	"	7	1 Belmont	Burtions
	"	12	12 Point Gratiot	Mosher, Harper
Pine Siskin	"	1-21	1-8 Farmersville Sta.	D. Clark
	"	1,4,16	10,3,2 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
	"	1,15,18	4,50,6 Belmont	Burtions
	"	1-20	1-9 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	3-16	1-4 Hamburg	Rew
	"	4	1 Town of Batavia	Seamans
	"	4	2 Fredonia	Flory
	"	6,7	4,4 Salamanca	Baird
	"	9,10,11	2,2,6 Silver Creek	Clarke
Evening Grosbeak	"	24 L	3 Town of Oakfield	Endres
	"	28 L	1 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.	194
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this month. (incl..17 on.Count) . . .	<u>54</u>
Total for year	248

* * * * *

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

Field Trip - Grimsby and Environs.

On Sunday, 6 May, six B.O.S. members checked in at the Beamer Lookout to witness part of an apparently mediocre hawk flight which proved to be the high count day for the month (354). We stayed until noon at which time about 200 hawks of seven species had been seen including Northern Harriers, Sharpshins, Cooper's, Goshawk, Redshouldered, Broadwings and Redtails. Over 80% were Sharpshins. In between the hawks other species seen at the lookout and adjacent woods included Chimney Swifts, Hairy Woodpecker, Common Flicker, Purple Martin, Barn Swallow, Blue Jay, American Crow, Black-c. Chickadee, White-br. Nuthatch, Ruby-cr. Kinglet, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Cardinal and Field Sparrow.

After lunch a stop at Coker's vineyard produced a pair of Eastern Blue-birds at Box #4. Coker's vineyard is on Coker Rd. east from Fifty Road just below the escarpment. We then backtracked to the Grimsby Dump on Park Road about a mile inland from the escarpment. Among the hoard (75 or so) of Ring-b. Gulls were a Herring Gull, a Great Blue Heron, a few ducks -- a Northern Pintail, 3 Blue-w. Teal and 2 American Wigeon -- as well as several shorebirds, namely one each of Killdeer, Lesser Yellowlegs, Spotted Sandpiper, Ruddy Turnstone and Pectoral Sandpiper.

Field Trip - Grimsby and Environs. cont.

Our last stop was at the Smithville Lagoons. On the walk in we were greeted by Savannah and Song Sparrows as well as a contrastingly marked Bobolink and the usual flock of Tree Swallows. The first lagoon was lined up with shore-birds around the perimeter and one small island. With the aid of a spotting scope we noted 3 Killdeer, about 15 Lesser Yellowlegs, 5 Spotted Sandpipers, 2 Semipalmated Sandpipers, 75 or so Pectoral Sandpipers, and 4 Dunlin together with roughly 15 Red-w. Blackbirds, approximately 15 Common Grackles, and 8 Brown-h. Cowbirds. On the opposite corner a large snapping turtle climbing up the bank with a shell about 2 feet in diameter, an 8 inch head and neck and a 15 to 18 inch tail was encountered. Reluctantly he retreated into the water. On the banks of the far ponds were 1 Pied-b. Grebe, 3 Black Terns, Black Duck, Mallards, 5 Blue-w. Teal, a Lesser Scaup and 4 Ruddy Duck. A lone Canada Goose honked at us as we turned the last corner of the dike. On the way out the 55th species for the day, a Palm Warbler, momentarily sat on the top of some nearby weeds. The other four species, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, European Starling and House Sparrow were seen between stops.

Walter Klabunde

Report of May 1984 Bird Count

Date: May 20, 1984

Compiler: Wavel Barber

Weather: Temperatures throughout the territory ranged between 45° and 65°. Varying reports of atmospheric conditions such as fog, drizzle, some rain and 'rainy all day' were received from the reporting compilers.

Compilation: Following is a list of species recorded on the count and the numbers of each. Underlined names indicate that acceptable written verifications were received. Species reported in three or fewer sections are marked with the B.O.S. section numbers in parenthesis. An asterisk indicates a first 1984 record for B.O.S. territory.

Loons - Ducks

Common Loon - 36
Pied-billed Grebe - 13
Dbl.-crested Cormorant - 17 (6,27)
American Bittern - 4
Great Blue Heron - 285
Great Egret - 2 (5,11)
Green-backed Heron - 89
Black-crowned Night Heron - 12 (2,9)
Tundra Swan - 3 (5,14,17)
Brant - 2 (4)
Canada Goose - 331
Wood Duck - 146
Am. Black Duck - 1 (23)
Mallard - 648

Northern Pintail - 22 (10,17)
Blue-winged Teal - 73
Northern Shoveler - 1 (10)
Gadwall - 18 (6,9,10)
American Wigeon - 29
Redhead - 3 (7,10)
Lesser Scaup - 5 (9,11)
Oldsquaw - 501 (4,6)
White-winged Scoter - 53
Common Goldeneye - 2 (24)
Hooded Merganser - 17
Common Merganser - 16 (1,9,28)
Red-breasted Merganser - 120

Report of May 1984 Bird Count cont.

Vultures - Cranes

Turkey Vulture - 47	American Kestrel - 49
Osprey - 3 (11,14,24)	Ring-necked Pheasant - 74
Northern Harrier - 24	Ruffed Grouse - 42
Sharp-shinned Hawk - 9	Wild Turkey - 15
Cooper's Hawk - 5	Virginia Rail - 12
Northern Goshawk - 4 (19,24)	Sora - 11
Red-shouldered Hawk - 8	Common Moorhen - 34
Broad-winged Hawk - 12	American Coot - 10
Red-tailed Hawk - 88	

Shore Birds

Black-bellied Plover - 4 (23)	*Sanderling - 5 (20)
*Semipalmated Plover - 12 (1,10)	*Semipalmated Sandpiper - 12
Killdeer - 493	Least Sandpiper - 47 (4,10,11)
Greater Yellowlegs - 2 (1,20)	Pectoral Sandpiper - 4 (13)
Lesser Yellowlegs - 3 (1)	Dunlin - 58
Solitary Sandpiper - 12	Short-billed Dowitcher - 80 (23)
Spotted Sandpiper - 82	Common Snipe - 27
Upland Sandpiper - 7 (14,20,26)	American Woodcock - 20
*Ruddy Turnstone - 3 (6)	

Gulls - Flycatchers

Little Gull - 2 (6)	Belted Kingfisher - 95
*Common Black-headed Gull - 1 (6)	Red-headed Woodpecker - 23
Bonaparte's Gull - 4 (4,20)	Red-bellied Woodpecker - 34
Ring-billed Gull - 3364	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 14
Herring Gull - 171	Downy Woodpecker - 270
Great Black-backed Gull - 15	Hairy Woodpecker - 79
Caspian Tern - 8 (1,6,23)	Northern Flicker - 255
Common Tern - 38	Pileated Woodpecker - 14
Black Tern - 35	*Olive-sided Flycatcher - 3 (9,15)
Rock Dove - 1200	Eastern Wood-Pewee - 42
Mourning Dove - 1090	*Yellow-bellied Flycatcher - 4 (14,20,21)
*Black-billed Cuckoo - 1 (15)	Acadian Flycatcher - 1 (20)
*Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 1 (24)	Alder Flycatcher - 6 (13,15,17)
Eastern Screech-Owl - 4 (13,20,21)	Willow Flycatcher - 34
Great Horned Owl - 20	Least Flycatcher - 161
Barred Owl - 4 (19,21,28)	Empidonax (sp) - 7
*Common Nighthawk - 7 (13,14,21)	Eastern Phoebe - 117
Chimney Swift - 634	Great Crested Flycatcher - 104
Ruby-th. Hummingbird - 102	Eastern Kingbird - 345

Report of May 1984 Bird Count cont.

Larks - Thrushes

Horned Lark (E.a. praticola) - 97
Purple Martin - 1338
Tree Swallow - 2493
No. Rough-wing. Swallow - 205
*Bank Swallow - 784
Cliff Swallow - 283
Barn Swallow - 3354
Blue Jay - 966
American Crow - 1383
Black-capped Chickadee - 929
Tufted Titmouse - 27
Red-breasted Nuthatch - 44
White-breasted Nuthatch - 173
Brown Creeper - 22
House Wren - 372
Winter Wren - 30

Marsh Wren - 6
Golden-crowned Kinglet - 11
Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 83
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 10
Eastern Bluebird - 97
Veery - 120
Gray-cheeked Thrush - 19
Swainson's Thrush - 111
Hermit Thrush - 11
Wood Thrush - 383
American Robin - 6350
Gray Catbird - 1029
Northern Mockingbird - 23
Brown Thrasher - 65
Water Pipit - 21

Waxwings - Warblers

Cedar Waxwing - 149
Loggerhead Shrike - 1 (28)
European Starling - 5948
White-eyed Vireo - 2 (12,24)
Solitary Vireo - 24
Yellow-throated Vireo - 22
Warbling Vireo - 81
Philadelphia Vireo - 10
Red-eyed Vireo - 82
Blue-winged Warbler - 138
Golden-winged Warbler - 5
*"Brewster's" Warbler - 3 (8,13,15)
Tennessee Warbler - 114
Orange-crowned Warbler - 15
Nashville Warbler - 183
Northern Parula - 4
Yellow Warbler - 1832
Chestnut-sided Warbler - 217
Magnolia Warbler - 265
Cape May Warbler - 83
Black-throated Blue Warbler - 69

Yellow-rumped Warbler - 720
Black-throated Green Warbler - 178
Blackburnian Warbler - 152
Pine Warbler - 6 (15,20,27)
Prairie Warbler - 6 (20,28)
Palm Warbler - 13
Bay Breasted Warbler - 51
*Blackpoll Warbler - 22
Cerulean Warbler - 16
Black and White Warbler - 97
American Redstart - 282
Ovenbird - 184
Northern Waterthrush - 25
Louisiana Waterthrush - 7
Mourning Warbler - 8
Common Yellowthroat - 642
Hooded Warbler - 41
Wilson's Warbler - 21
Canada Warbler - 14
*Yellow-breasted Chat - 2 (8,20)

Report of May 1984 Bird Count cont.

Tanagers - House Sparrow

Summer Tanager - 2 (8,20)	White-throated Sparrow - 298
Scarlet Tanager - 70	White-crowned Sparrow - 262
Northern Tanager - 658	Dark-eyed Junco - 168
Rose-breasted Grosbeak - 469	Bobolink - 1179
*Indigo Bunting - 153	Red-winged Blackbird - 6722
Rufus-sided Towhee - 203	Eastern Meadowlark - 295
Chipping Sparrow - 1021	Rusty Blackbird - 6
*Clay Colored Sparrow - 1 (20)	Common Grackle - 6154
Field Sparrow - 266	Brown-headed Cowbird - 791
Vesper Sparrow - 9	Northern Oriole - 688
Savannah Sparrow - 227	Purple Finch - 283
*Grasshopper Sparrow - 5 (13,17,3)	House Finch - 775
Henslow's Sparrow - 11 (14,20,28)	Pine Siskin - 224
Song Sparrow - 1953	American Goldfinch - 2191
Lincoln's Sparrow - 2 (11,13)	Evening Grosbeak - 308
Swamp Sparrow - 110	House Sparrow - 2396

Total Species 203 (+1 hybrid)

Total Individuals 72,549

Comments from comparing the 1984 May Bird Count with past May count records, starting in 1935.

Double-crested Cormorant - 17; all time high.
Great Blue Heron - 285; highest since 1950.
Great Egret - 2; highest in past ten years.
Brant - 2; 35 were reported in 1970, none since until 1984.
Mallard - 648; all time high.
Northern Pintail - 22; all time high.
Oldsquaw - 501; highest in past ten years, next highest 121 in 1982.
Hooded Merganser - 17; second highest since 1935, 19 in 1974.
Turkey Vulture - 47; lowest in past ten years.
Northern Harrier - 24; highest in past ten years.
Northern Goshawk - 4; all reported from known nesting areas, highest number in 8 years (none recorded prior to 1976).
American Kestrel - 49; lowest since 1969 when 25 were reported.
Virginia Rail - 12; highest since 1952 when 12 were also reported.
Common Moorhen - 34; highest in past ten years.
Short-billed Dowitcher - 80; all time high.
Little Gull - 2; first time ever recorded on a May Bird Count.
Common Black-headed Gull - 1; first time ever recorded on a May Bird Count.
Bonaparte's Gull - 4; lowest since 1957 when 3 were reported.
Black-billed Cuckoo - 1; lowest reported in past ten years.
Chimney Swift - 634; highest in past ten years.
Red-bellied Woodpecker - 34; all time high.

Report of May 1984 Bird Count cont.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher - 4; highest since the 7 reported in 1970.
Eastern Phoebe - 117; lowest since 80 were reported in 1962.
Purple Martin - 1338; highest in past ten years.
Cliff Swallow - 283; all time high.
Barn Swallow - 3354; highest in past ten years.
Winter Wren - 30; all time high.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 83; highest since 1966 when 337 were reported.
Gray Catbird - 1029; highest in past ten years.
Northern Mockingbird - 23; all time high, none at all reported prior to 1957.
Brown Thrasher - 65; lowest in past ten years.
Red-eyed Vireo - 82; lowest since 1971, 68 reported.
Orange-crowned Warbler - 15; all time high.
Nashville Warbler - 183; highest since 1956, 193 reported.
Magnolia Warbler - 265; highest since 1956, 480 reported.
Black-throated Blue Warbler - 69; highest in past ten years.
Yellow-rumped Warbler - 720; highest in past ten years.
Black-and-white Warbler - 97; highest since 1948, 294 reported.
Hooded Warbler - 41; ten year high.
Canada Warbler - 14; lowest since 1950, 11 reported.
Summer Tanager - 2; first ever recorded.
Scarlet Tanager - 70; ten year low.
Clay-colored Sparrow - 1; only previous report, 1 in 1970.
House Finch - 775; a continued steady rise in numbers since the first May Count recording of 8 in 1976.

The compiler wishes to thank the 244 Observers and particularly the various Section Compilers for their fine performance in conducting this May 1984 Bird Count and for submitting the check-lists and Verification Reports promptly.

Sections and Observers: In the list that follows, compilers' names are underlined.

Total observers - 244.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. Fonthill, Ont. | <u>Gerald Chapple.</u> |
| 2. Thorold, Ont. | <u>Gary Novosel.</u> |
| 3. Wilson, N.Y. | <u>Walter Klabunde, Harriette Klabunde.</u> |
| 4. Middleport, N.Y. | <u>Robert Brock, Marge Harwitz.</u> |
| 5. Oak Orchard, N.Y. | <u>Dick Christensen, Peggy Christensen, Marion Smith, Charlotte Pratt, Charles Karrs.</u> |
| 6. Port Maitland, Ont. | <u>David Cooper, Edward Fessler, Connie Fessler, Robert F. Andrie.</u> |
| 7. Lowbank, Ont. | <u>Arthur Schaffner.</u> |
| 8. Fort Erie, Ont. | <u>Marc Chelemer.</u> |

Report of May 1984 Bird Count cont.

9. Grand Island, N.Y. Karen Renning, Stanley King, Edward Crohn, Mary Ann Stegmeier, Jack Wright, Margaret Wright.
10. Akron, N.Y. Robert Wagner.
11. Buffalo, N.Y. Julia Wells, Alice McKale, Rose Kuma, Charles Halvorsen, Barbara Halvorsen, Robert F. Andrie, Maxine Barber.
12. Lancaster, N.Y. Marie Wendling, Ann Bauer, Dorothy Danner, Fred Danner, Ray Franz, Tom Harper, Gertrude Webster, Cy Wolfling.
13. Batavia, N.Y. Max & Jane Mason, David Weller, Don Thureau, Dave Thompson, Geo. Mahoney, Marie Mahoney, Marge Pixley, Robert Hull, Eileen Hull, Gail Seamans, Delorus Seamans.
14. Hamburg, N.Y. Barbara Walker, Bob & Lucille Leonard, Ken Brandis, Marian Dornhaffer, Mike Turisk, Thelma Pikett, Grace Sisler, Barbara Howard, Jane Wilson, Lois Abbott, Phyllis Hansen, Erma Kern, Belle Minsley.
15. Java, N.Y. Bill Bogacki, Esther Becker, Olga Rosche, Ron Rycroft.
16. Angola, N.Y. Paul & Alene Smith, Bill Townsend.
17. Cattaraugus, N.Y. Wavel Barber, Carolyn Frank, Audrey Horbett.
18. Delevan, N.Y. Don & Jane Clark.
19. Fillmore, N.Y. Alleghany County Bird Club, Katherine Palmer, Donald Goodsell, Mr. & Mrs. Howard Lang, Faye Clancy, Ronald Andrews, Velma Baker, Josephine Main, Edna Marvin, Helen Morse, Mr. & Mrs. Roger Nicholson, Jean Perry, Ruth Richardson, Marion & Emmette Smith, Midge & H.K. Smith, Victor Carpenter, Larry Mullen, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Wilson, Larry Wilson.
20. Dunkirk, N.Y. Lake Erie Bird Club, Nancy Bowser, Sylvia Clarke, Joanne Goetz, Joe Gula, Greg Harper, Morgan Jones, Judy Kumler, Phil Kumler, Terry Mahoney, Judy Mosher, Terry Mosher, Ari Richardson, Marty Sanden, Betty Smith, Doris Welch, Tom Welch, Fred Woods, Jane Woods.
21. Cherry Creek, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Eileen Anderson, Elizabeth Butler, Otto & Gretchen Carlson, Daniel Cordosi, David Dister, David Gagne, Julie Heilman, Dorothy Pihlblad, Mary Ann Reiber-Davis, Carol Roby.
22. Sherman, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Daniel Cordosi, David Dister, Flora Elderkin, David Gagne, Linda O'Brien, Elizabeth Pillsbury.

Report of May 1984 Bird Count cont.

23. Frewsburg, N.Y.

Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Daniel Cordosi, David Dister, Flora Elderkin, Allen & Margaret Findlay, David Gagne, Frank Gardner, Joanne Nelson, Linda O'Brien, Jean Pigman, Elizabeth Pillsbury, Thomas Simmons, Jr.
24. Allegany State Pk., NY

John & Mary Forness, Tim Baird, Michelle Bush, George Bush, Bill Forness.
25. Allegany, N.Y.

Tim Baird, Charles & Margaret Green, Dorothy Baker.
26. Cuba, N.Y.

Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Mary Jordan, Ann Scott, Betty & John Compton, Dustin Fleming, Sylvia Foster.
27. Bolivar, N.Y.

Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Doris Hurlburt, Emma Lou King, Lillian & Stella Simons, Annie Smith, Betty & Jim Hooker, Frances DeGroff, Wilma Sanford, Helen K. Apsey, Helen Link, Dolly Reunski.
28. Alfred, N.Y.

Allegany County Bird Club, Betsy Brooks, Vivian Pitzrick, Erma Larson, Lavinia Creighton, Harry & Larry Deverell, Ann Eisenhardt, Eva Ford, Peter Gradoni, Clarence Klingensmith, Cathy MacDonald, Ruth Paige, Beverly Perry, Agnes & Everett Rhodes.
Louise & Jay Gibson, Charlotte Alderson, Russell Allen, Dorothy & Fred Bayless, Esther Biehl, Don, Lorna, Tara & Sonya Brink, Jim Copenheaver, Martha Delevergne, Mildred Hayes, Viola Ide, Linn Phelan, Gladys & Allen Witter.
Connor Stephens, Wisner Cook, Kathy Kent, Jim Ninos, Pauline Pease, Bill Walker, Harold Ward.
Vivian Pitzrick, Mallory & Mary Adams, Kenneth Balmas, Doris & Lou Burton, Raymond Pitzrick, James Valente.
Vera Brown, Robert Clark, Evelyn Coats, Paul & Mary Alice Fuller, Marion Green, Claribel James, Ernest & Lynn Rositzke, Bernadean Stein, Theodore & Lorena Vossler, Linda Wolfe.
Erma Larson, Harold Babcock, Myrt Brown, Mr. & Mrs. Carl Burdick, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Cronauer, Mrs. Jack Frank, Helen Graves, Muriel Kruger, Ted McClure, Evelyn Openhym, Ruth Smith, Harvey Spencer, Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Taggart, Mrs. Gordon Taggart, Fran Thompson, David & Ona Reynolds.

* * * * *

UNUSUAL HAPPENINGS: BIRDING ANECDOTES

Sandpiper Takes A Dive

At Tifft Farm recently, I was watching a Spotted Sandpiper as it flew across a part of Lake Kirsty and landed on a rock by the shore about 50 feet from where I was standing. With my binoculars, I continued to observe the bird as it bobbed its tail up and down. Suddenly, it dove head first into the lake and disappeared into the water. It entered the water at an angle that would carry it parallel to the shore. When I looked away from my binoculars, a Sharp-shinned Hawk flew a couple of feet over the rock where the sandpiper had been standing. When the hawk was a safe distance away, the sandpiper resurfaced several feet from where it had entered the water.

What a surprise! I had never heard of shorebirds diving under water. I might expect one standing in the water to duck, but never thought of them diving.

Julia Wells, May 10

Swallow Nearly Swallowed

On May 8, a gray and drizzly day, I glanced out a window toward the water of a fairly deep vertical-sided boat slip alongside the Black Rock Canal. I noticed something thin and dark thrashing about on the water which I took at first to be a fish. Further looking revealed it was a swallow.

Knowing that Rough-winged Swallows nest in a small drainpipe in the steel wall of the slip, I presumed it was one of them. Because of the difficulty of seeing details and a tendency to believe my first guess, I never confirmed the identification. But continued examination revealed that two birds were involved. The newly-noticed one was usually submerged, and the two were so violently whisking around that it seemed like they were tied together and trying to break free. Fighting birds! After about 20 seconds the first bird flew off, leaving the second one limply breast-stroking toward the wall. The water surface is about 6 feet below the top of the wall, which is at ground level.

A companion suggested that we retrieve it, which we did with a broom. The poor thing was soaked and limp but apparently intact, unbleeding with nothing broken. And surprise, it's a Tree Swallow! Hmm, now what was the other guy? Drat! Why didn't I look more closely...is this interspecies or intraspecies conflict? Sigh, we'll never know.

Keeping it in a box in the warm indoors, we wrapped the patient in several changes of tissues, replacing them until it was dry. Over about 45 minutes it gradually became bright-eyed and perky, but its feathers were still pretty mussed. We placed it outside on an old hunk of metal where it stood passively and clumsily as we watched nearby. It preened slowly. About 20 minutes later it was still standing there, this time erect, feathers smooth, and anxiously turning its head and twitching its wings. When looked for moments later, the swallow was gone.

Swallow Nearly Swallowed cont.

Seeing swallows winging about in the distance, it is satisfying to think that one of them may be our brief house guest, saved from a watery doom.

Bob Klips

* * * * *

"IN EXCHANGE"

Reports and News Gleaned From the Newsletters of Several
Birding Organizations with which the B.O.S. Exchanges Publications

The Maryland Ornithological Society: Maryland Bird Life

A new active Bald Eagle nest was discovered above the Prince George County shore of the Patuxent River. Nesting bald eagles have not been found in Prince George County in at least 13 and possible as many as 20 years. The writer believes this resurgence to be a result of county as well as state heavy support of protection of critical natural areas.

Lake Erie Bird Club: Wren's Ramblings

Morgan Jones reports that a Purple Finch he banded was found dead in Bogalusa, LA. A Solitary Vireo captured and released in Fredonia had been banded the previous year at Prince Edward Point, Ont. This is the only distant recovery of this species in N. America in over 10 years.

Genesee Ornithological Society: The Goshawk

A good use for "Return a Gift to Wildlife" funds was revealed in a report of the hawk watch at Braddock Bay. A new platform patterned after the one at Cape May was built by the Town of Greece and N.Y. State Dept. of Environmental Conservation with this money. The report pointed out that despite low numbers of raptors in February and March, by April 15 the total raptor count of 6790 was the second highest in eight consecutive years of the hawk watch and broad winged hawks had not arrived yet. (L.W. Moon)

The tabulator, commenting on the delayed migration, still found the species totals for the month and the year to date at and above the 10-year average, noting that individuals still arrive near normal dates even when the migration is slowed.

Cattaraugus County Bird Study Club: The Catbird

In this area, however, Don Clark found spring and fall migrations of 1983 "disappointing." "Sparrows and finches were found in good numbers, but warblers, thrushes, vireos, mimic thrushes and blackbirds were not found in usual areas. Record numbers of house, purple and American goldfinches were banded, but fall

The Catbird cont.

brought a poor migration of even sparrows." Distant banding recovery records: An Evening Grosbeak banded by Don Clark was trapped and released in Newport, Tenn., 523 miles away. Another was found in Minn. 858 miles away.

Maryland Ornithological Society: The Maryland Yellowthroat

The first year of the Maryland/D.C. Atlas Project resulted in finding 197 species of birds believed to breed in the district, 177 confirmed. Cooper's hawks were the most common nesting raptor. Yellow-rumped Warblers, possibly breeding, were the first of this season in the state in almost 100 years.

* * * * *

NOTES

William D'Anna, as recommended by the Statisticians, has been appointed Compiler by the Council.

Willie has consented to relieve Joe Thill, who for these many years has authored THE MONTH along with his function as Compiler of the NOTEWORTHY RECORDS, both appearing as the featured articles in each month's THE PROTHONOTARY. Joe has consented to continue as writer of THE MONTH.

The Officers, Council and membership of the Buffalo Ornithological Society, as well as the many other readers of The Prothonotary, extend to Joe Thill a note of thanks and appreciation for his unswerving dedication in providing the reader of The Prothonotary descriptive birding conditions and highlights for each month and in organizing the various birders' reports into a statistical order and presentation constituting a major factor in the permanent records of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

And, to Willie D'Anna, the new Compiler, a promise that all members will send in bird sighting reports and will mail them before the FIFTH of the next month. Thanks, Willie!

* * * * *

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

September 12th: Summer Bird Experiences: All members of the Society are invited to relate their birding exploits since the June meeting. Feel free to bring slides, tape recordings, photos, or just good stories to share with other members.

September 26th: Tom Harper "Effects of Hunting Laws on Wildlife." What effect on bird populations has hunting had? How have the refuges designed for the breeding of Canada Geese and ducks helped or hurt other forms of wildlife? And just how many birds do the hunters take? These questions and related issues will be explored.

November 10th: Anniversary Dinner Meeting - 38th Floor Marine Midland Center.
(Saturday) Details to follow.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman, (885-0474; Buffalo, N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

August 26th: Joint trip with Genesee Ornithological Society. Meet at Vermont and Busti at 8:30 a.m. or 8:45 at the first parking lot in Fort Erie. Leaders: Esther Becker 537-2592; Dr. Harold Axtell (416) 871-6999.

Sept. 7-9: Federation of N.Y. State Bird Clubs meeting at Cornell University, Ithica, N.Y.

Sept. 23rd: Tifft Farm for thrushes, warblers and other migrants. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Tifft Farm parking area. Leader: Wayne Gall 896-5200.

October 14th: Fall Census. Compiler: Barbara Walker 649-1242.

For further information about field trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairman (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, New York 14304.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES:

Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

\$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Shirley Wake (typing).

Editorial Board: Marian Dornhaffer, Bradley Lown, Julia Wells

EDITOR:

Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 50

JULY 1984

NUMBER 67

THE MONTH

June was a warm and very wet month with record amounts of precipitation in the Southern Tier causing heavy flooding in Chautauqua County on the 17th and 18th. The month started on a pleasant note with hot temperatures and sunny skies dominating the weather until June 13th. The high temperature for the year at Buffalo was recorded on June 8th - 89° (F). On the 13th, violent thunderstorms in the evening heralded a cold front which brought much cooler weather; heavy rainfall over a 48 hour period beginning in the early morning hours of June 17th brought up to three inches of rain in the Buffalo area and five inches in Chautauqua and other Southern Tier counties causing creeks to crest and overflow with locally heavy flooding. It was sunny and cool until the 24th when the region was beset by more heavy rain in thunderstorms over a two day period followed by unsettled weather until month's end. Vivian Pitzrick speculates that the wet weather in June had adverse effects on the nesting of summer resident bird species in the region. She related two cases of unsuccessful Tree Swallow nesting caused by the wet weather. The average temperature for the month was 67.8° (F), 1.8° above normal. Rainfall measured 6.86 inches, 4.14 inches above average and making June 1984 the third wettest in the records of the local weather bureau. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Of special interest in June has been the recording of migrating passerines and other birds by Arthur Clark at Pinehurst on the Old Lake Shore Road in the Town of Hamburg. Among the "later than usual" migrants seen at that location this month were 672 Blue Jays and 1,913 Cedar Waxwings on June 5th. Also seen on that date was an unusual migrant, a Red-bellied Woodpecker, one of ten birds of this species recorded at Pinehurst during the spring migration. There were many other records unusual enough to merit mention here. On June 21st, Harold Axtell observed two

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Common Loons on Lake Erie at Windmill Point, Ontario, a very late date for migrants of this species. On June 2nd, Axtell saw four Brant at Rock Point Provincial Park near Dunnville.

On June 5th, Alice McKale and Richard and Dorothy Rosche were looking for birds on the Meadville Road in the N.Y. State Wildlife Management Area in Niagara County when they heard a rail call repeatedly from the fresh water marsh on the west side of the road. The call was unfamiliar to Alice but Dick Rosche recognized it immediately as that of a King Rail. As they were unable to catch a glimpse of the bird, they decided to tape its voice and play it back. This ploy had the desired effect as the rail appeared in the tall marsh grass with neck outstretched and very agitated. It was a chicken-sized bird with rusty brown neck, streaked back and a long slender bill -- unmistakably a King Rail.

On June 8th, Jeffrey Schwartz of Hamburg saw an adult Lesser Black-backed Gull in a colony of Ring-billed and Herring Gulls on a sand and gravel spit adjacent to a breakwall in the north Buffalo Harbor called Donnelly's Pier. Schwartz, a graduate student in biology at Ohio State University, was engaged in a summer field project studying interspecific gull reactions at the Donnelly's Pier colony when he made his discovery. The bird, which he described as slightly smaller in bodily proportions than the Herring Gulls with which it associated, was unmistakable with its black mantle and lemon yellow legs contrasting vividly with the plumage of the others. He subsequently saw this bird on visits to the colony on June 10th, 11th and 12th. It is presumably the first summer record of this species for our study area.

Tim Baird of Salamanca remarked on the increase in sightings of the Black-billed Cuckoo in Cattaraugus County in June; he suspects that it is in no small part due to the "moderate infestation" of Gypsy Moth larvae in that county. Terry Mosher reports that three Acadian Flycatchers were located by Art Schaffner and himself on June 13th in a brushy area known as Wheeler's Gulf in the Town of Pomfret in Chautauqua County. Elizabeth Brooks located four territorial males of the Golden-crowned Kinglet in the State Reforestation Area at Brown and Vandermark Roads in the Town of Ward in Allegany County in June. Two additional males were located in a similar site some five miles away in that township and two others in the Town of West Almond -- all previously documented breeding areas. Bob Andrie, however, located yet two new putative breeding sites for this locally common summer resident; he reported a singing male Golden-crowned Kinglet from a spruce plantation on Upper Bear Creek Road in the Town of Machias in Cattaraugus County on June 23rd. A second male Golden-crowned Kinglet was seen by Andrie and members of the Museum of Science Bird Study group on June 16th in a mixed evergreen plantation on Maple Valley Road in the Town of Machias. It would be interesting to note how many spruce and other evergreen plantations of several acres or more in size in the Southern Tier do not have resident Golden-crown in summer!

On June 4th and June 28th, Tim Baird saw a singing male White-eyed Vireo in the brushy flood plain of the Allegheny River at Salamanca. The bird (or birds) was apparently unmated. Elizabeth Brooks and several others were engaged in "block-busting," surveying breeding birds for the New York State Federation of Bird Clubs Atlas, on June 2nd in the Town of Alfred when Clarence Klingensmith recognized a

song from an alder thicket as that of a White-eyed Vireo. The bird was subsequently located and identified by all present. Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter reported a singing male Prothonotary Warbler on the Sour Springs Road of the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge in Orleans County on June 1st. There were many reports of Yellow-rumped Warblers from suitable habitat in the Southern Tier counties in June. Like the Golden-crowned Kinglet, this bird is now a locally common summer resident. Tim Baird located one male in the State Forest land at McCarty Hill in the Town of Great Valley while Elizabeth Brooks reported 15 territorial males in the Town of Alfred in Allegany County and an additional three birds, all males in the Town of Ward in that county. She also located a pair at a new location, Hill Road in the Town of Independence. Mrs. Brooks also reported 13 territorial male Prairie Warblers from previously documented nesting sites in the Town of Alfred as well as two more males in an established breeding location, a Norway Spruce plantation on the Vandermark Road in the Town of Ward. Two other males were found in "a Christmas Tree plantation" on Jones Road in the Town of Andover.

The Allegany Nature Pilgrimage Weekend at Allegany State Park always yields some surprises in the form of rare bird species and this year was no exception. A male Kentucky Warbler and three Olive-sided Flycatchers among the birds reported.

On June 13th and 19th, Elizabeth Brooks heard the familiar 'buzzy' song of a male Clay-colored Sparrow in a Douglas Fir plantation on the McAndrews Road in the Town of Alfred, the same location where she found this rare summer resident several years ago. Try as she might, Mrs. Brooks was unable to get a glimpse of the singer until July 4th when she saw it perched in good light atop an eight foot fir tree, singing lustily. The characteristic gray-brown cheek patch and crown stripe were noted. Mrs. Brooks also located five territorial male White-throated Sparrows in June in Allegany County, all in large conifer plantations in previously documented breeding areas; one in the Town of Ward, one in the Town of Alfred and three in the vicinity of Palmer's Pond in the Town of West Almond. On the field trip with the Museum of Science Bird Study group on June 16th, Bob Andrie and Bill Vaughan located a male White-throated Sparrow in a boggy meadow bordering a mixed deciduous-evergreen woods on the Maple Valley Road in the Town of Machias. Unidentified field observers working on the Province of Ontario Bird Atlas project at Wainfleet Marsh west of Port Colborne on June 16th reported four singing male Lincoln's Sparrows in that area, the former site of a relict glacial bog where the presence of this species in summer tantalized local bird-watchers for years although no nest was ever found.

On June 3rd, Don Endres of Basom observed an adult male Orchard Oriole on the Lake Shore Road in the Town of Yates in Orleans County. The bird was moving along a row of trees at the roadside with its black head and mantle and chestnut breast and rump clearly visible. Finally, a report received from Chautauqua County at the Museum of Science tells of an unidentified observer who saw a male Yellow-headed Blackbird on N.Y. Route #39 east of Forestville in the Town of Hanover on June 14th. It was the seventh such observation of this rare western vagrant in our study area this year. On June 20th, the bird was reported again from this location, this time accompanied by a female and both flew into a nearby marsh! There was much speculation about the first nesting record for this species in our state but no solid evidence to prove it.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY 14217

JUNE NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Common Loon	June	21	2 Windmill Pt., Ont.	Axtell
*Least Bittern	"	1	1 Tonawanda WMA	D'Anna, Potter
	"	5	1 Tonawanda WMA	McKale, Rosches
	"	7	1 Iroquois NWR	McKale et al
Brant	"	2 L	4 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Axtell
Canada Goose	"	9	2 Great Valley	Baird
		(with young)		
	"	14	4 Town of Ashford	Baird
	"	3-24	2-4 Town of Wales	Rosche
Green-w. Teal	"	15	1 West Valley	Baird
	"	22	4 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
Redhead	"	1	2 Tonawanda WMA	D'Anna, Potter
	"	3	3 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
	"	5	3 Tonawanda WMA	McKale, Rosches
Common Merganser	"	5-28	1-4 Amity Lake	Pitzrick, Adams
	"	13	1 Great Valley	Baird
	"	22	5 Windmill Pt., Ont.	Axtell
Red-br. Merganser	"	22	4 Windmill Pt., Ont.	Axtell
Osprey	"	2	1 Alma Pond	Brooks
	"	<u>23</u>	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Zurek, Komroy
Bald Eagle	"	3	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
		(immature)		
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	4	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	5	1 Iroquois NWR	McKale, Rosches
	"	26	1 E. Aurora	Andrle, Gregory
Cooper's Hawk	"	1-30	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
*King Rail	"	5	1 Tonawanda WMA	McKale, Rosches
Black-bell. Plover	"	2	1 Morgan's Pt., Ont.	Axtell
	"	<u>20</u> L	6 St. Catharine's, Ont.	Freeland
Whimbrel	"	<u>2</u> L	1 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Axtell
Short-eared Owl	"	2-25	1-2 Lockport	Andrle, D'Anna et al
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	16	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	17	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Olive-s. Flycatcher	"	4 L	1 Salamanca	Baird
Yellow-b. Flycatcher	"	3 L	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell

<u>Acadian Flycatcher</u>	June	13	3 Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Schaffner
			(previously documented breeding area)	
Cliff Swallow	"	11	1 Town of Portland	Mosher
	"	13	1 Town of Chautauqua	Mosher, Schaffner
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-30	1-2 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	3	1 Alfred	Brooks
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	10, 19	2, 2 Alfred	Brooks
	"	11	1 Great Valley	Baird
Winter Wren	"	26	2 Alfred	Brooks
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	<u>4, 10, 12, 19</u>	2, 4, 1, 3 Alfred	Brooks
			(previously documented breeding areas)	
	"	<u>16, 23</u>	1, 1 Town of Machias	Andrle et al
Eastern Bluebird	"	1	2 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
	"	1-30	16 Alfred	Brooks
			(8 active nests)	
	"	1-30	86 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
			(40 pairs and 46 fledglings)	
	"	19	1 Town of Chautauqua	Mosher
	"	19	2 Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Schroeders
	"	22	2 Ellicottville	Baird
	"	24	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Gray-ch. Thrush	"	3 L	1 Rose Hill, Ont.	Axtell
Swainson's Thrush	"	3 L	1 Rose Hill, Ont.	Axtell
	"	11	1 Great Valley	Baird
Hermit Thrush	"	1-30	2 Alfred	Brooks
	"	21	3 Town of Scio	Pitzrick
	"	25	1 Allegany St. Pk.	Baird
	"	25	3 Town of Ward	Pitzrick
N. Mockingbird	"	11	1 Lockport	McKale, Wrights
	"	15	1 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna
	"	21	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
White-eyed Vireo	"	2	1 Yorks Corners	Brooks
Philadelphia Vireo	"	3 L	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
Tennessee Warbler	"	2	1 Town of Ward	Pitzrick
	"	3 L	3 Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
Nashville Warbler	"	1-30	1-4 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	1-30	1-4 Town of Ward	Pitzrick
	"	15	1 Town of Westfield	Klips, Harnish
Northern Parula	"	2	1 Franklinville	Klips, Harnish
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	1-30	16 Alfred	Brooks
			(all territorial males)	
	"	1-30	1 Town of Independence	Brooks
	"	1-30	2 Town of Ward	Brooks
	"	4-30	1-2 Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	14	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	16	1 Town of Machias	Andrle et al
	"	20	1 Great Valley	Baird
	"	23	1 Franklinville	Andrle et al
Prairie Warbler	"	<u>1-26</u>	2 Town of Andover	Brooks
	"	<u>1-26</u>	2 Town of Ward	Brooks

Prairie Warbler	June	<u>2,14,25</u>	2,1,2	Town of Ward	Pitzrick
(cont.)	"	<u>4-26</u>	9	Alfred	Brooks
	"	<u>14,16,22,23</u>	2,1,2,1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	<u>27</u>	1	Town of Angelica	Pitzrick
			(all previously documented breeding areas)		
Blackpoll Warbler	"	1 L	1	Eggertsville	McKale
Cerulean Warbler	"	2	2	Salamanca	Baird
	"	2,9,21	1,1,1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	13	3	Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Schaffner
	"	22	2	Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
	"	25	4	Allegany St. Pk.	Baird
Bl.-&-w. Warbler	"	6-30	1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Prothonotary Warbler		1	1	Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
Yellow-br. Chat	"	13	1	Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Schaffner
Clay-col. Sparrow	"	13,19	1,1	Alfred	Brooks
White-thr. Sparrow	"	4	1	Town of Ward	Brooks
	"	<u>5</u>	1	Alfred	Brooks
	"	<u>12</u>	3	Town of W. Almond	Brooks
			(all previously documented breeding areas)		
	"	<u>16</u>	1	Town of Machias	Andrle et al
Rusty Blackbird	"	<u>2</u> L	1	Town of Alma	Brooks
*Orchard Oriole	"	3	1	Town of Yates	Endres

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.	248
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue.	<u>4</u>
Total for year	252

* * * * *

NOTES

Record Number of Peregrines Nesting in East

ITHACA, N.Y. -- Cornell University ornithologists are releasing about 100 captive-hatched young peregrine falcons this spring in states from North Carolina to Maine. They are especially encouraged by lower pesticide levels, which were responsible for the demise of these raptors, and the apparent ability of peregrine falcons to reproduce in the wild above the "replacement rate."

Cornell's success with development of the captive breeding technique has prompted similar reintroduction programs, with even rarer birds of prey, including the California condor, the Philippine eagle, the aplomado falcon and the Mauritius kestrel.

This is also the first year the Cornell ornithologists are removing newly-laid eggs from nests in the wild, to be later hatched in the laboratory. The nesting pairs, at established sites in New Jersey, are expected to produce additional eggs, which the birds will then hatch themselves. Young from the laboratory-hatched eggs will be placed in the wild.

Record Number of Peregrines Nesting in East cont.

Eighteen pairs of peregrine falcons have been observed so far this year in Virginia, New Jersey, Maryland, New York and New Hampshire, and at least 15 pairs are expected to establish nests, lay eggs and produce young in the East.

If the peregrine falcons--the fastest flying birds in the world and among nature's most spectacular hunters--follow their 1983 pattern, bridges and buildings will be some of their favorite nesting sites:

--for the second year in a row, peregrines are setting up housekeeping on some of New York City's bridges and one over the Delaware River. Locations are kept confidential for the peregrines' privacy and protection;

--the Chesapeake Bay Bridge in Maryland has attracted a pair;

--Cornell ornithologists have provided gravel nesting material atop an Atlantic City casino in hopes that peregrines sighted there will nest and establish a family;

--peregrines are again frequenting the Brigantine National Wildlife Refuge in New Jersey, the best place on the East Coast for the public to view the birds' activities.

Cornell biologists under the leadership of Tom J. Cade, professor of ornithology, began in 1970 to breed peregrine falcons in captivity. Peregrines in many areas of the U.S. were unable to reproduce because of egg shells weakened by pesticide residues. During the 1960s and 70s no peregrine falcons were known to have nested east of the Mississippi.

Not just peregrine falcon populations, but this country's environment in the eastern states, too, seem to be recovering from the now-banned pesticide DDT, according to recent studies. Samples of hatched eggshell fragments in peregrine nests reveal DDT levels well below the amounts in the 1950s and 60s, when the shells could not support the weight of nesting parents.

"The bald eagle is also coming back at a healthy rate," observes Cornell's Peregrine Fund Reintroduction Coordinator John Barclay. "That indicates that the environment is becoming somewhat cleansed of the pesticides, which reduced these species populations."

Equally encouraging to Barclay and others in the peregrine recovery program is the number of young produced in nests in the wild, an average of over two per nest. This is slightly more than the replacement rate for the species. Peregrine falcons, which incur a 60 to 70 percent mortality in their first year, must reproduce at the replacement rate just to hold their own in the contests with the natural and manmade environments.

Record Number of Peregrines Nesting in East cont.

Cornell first began releasing young peregrines at eastern sites in 1975. It was not until 1980 that the first released pairs produced young in the wild, along the coast of New Jersey.

The Peregrine Fund repopulation program now operates breeding laboratories for the Pacific coast states in Santa Cruz, Calif. and for the Rocky Mountain states at Fort Collins, Colo., as well as the original East Coast laboratory in Ithaca, N.Y. (The Rocky Mountain facility will this summer move to Boise, Idaho, with the opening there of the World Center for Birds of Prey.)

Peregrine Fund laboratories, which are supported by federal funds and private donations, produced 260 young peregrines in 1983. A total of 99 peregrines were released in the states of Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho, Montana and Utah; and 79 were released in New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia. Another 23 naturally produced young were raised by pairs in the wild in the East.

The Peregrine Fund, in cooperation with federal and state agencies and private conservation groups, will release young peregrines this year in Virginia, Vermont, upstate New York, New Hampshire and for the first time, in Maine and North Carolina.

From the 511 peregrine falcons released in the East since 1975, about 100 survivors and their offspring are thought to be slying along the mountains, coasts and skyscraper canyons.

* * * * *

2257 Cayuga Drive Extension
Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

Buffalo Ornithological Society

Dear Members,

Beginning with the August issue of The Prothonotary I will be taking over the job of record compiler from Joe Thill. Joe has had the position for ten years, a long time indeed, and few would argue about the excellent work he has done. I have some thirty-seven years less field experience than Joe so it was with some trepidation that I accepted the position. Fortunately, Joe will continue to write "The Month" which will make the job much easier.

This is not to say that I will be doing the job reluctantly. On the contrary I have a great interest in bird status and I hope to learn a lot more from the work. In addition, I look forward to serving such a fine group as ours.

I can hardly wait to see all those bird records filling up my mailbox!

Sincerely,
Willie D'Anna

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

September 12th: Summer Bird Experiences: All members of the Society are invited to relate their birding exploits since the June meeting. Feel free to bring slides, tape recordings, photos, or just good stories to share with other members.

September 26th: Tom Harper "Effects of Hunting Laws on Wildlife." What effect on bird populations has hunting had? How have the refuges designed for the breeding of Canada Geese and ducks helped or hurt other forms of wildlife? And just how many birds do the hunters take? These questions and related issues will be explored.

November 9th: Anniversary Dinner Meeting - 38th Floor Marine Midland Center.
(Friday) Details to follow. (Note date change.)

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman, (885-0474; Buffalo, N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

Sept. 7-9: Federation of N.Y. State Bird Clubs meeting at Cornell University, Ithica, N.Y.

Sept. 23rd: Tifft Farm for thrushes, warblers and other migrants. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Tifft Farm parking area. Leader: Wayne Gall 896-5200.

October 14th: Fall Census. Compiler: Barbara Walker 649-1242.

October 21st: Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, etc. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Transitown Plaza at Citibank or at 9:30 a.m. at the Cayuga Overlook. Leader: Dick Christensen 632-7762.

For further information about field trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairman (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, New York 14304.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES:

Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

\$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Shirley Wake (typing).

Editorial Board: Marian Dornhaffer, Bradley Lown, Julia Wells

EDITOR:

Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

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ITHACA N Y 14853

NUMBER 8

OCT 25 1984

VOLUME 50

AUGUST 1984

THE MONTH

Save for a brief period of cool weather from the 7th through the 10th, July was a warm and sunny month with the average temperature of 70.3° (F) near normal for the period. A record low temperature of 47° (F) was recorded on the 8th. Precipitation for the month measured only 1.37 inches, 1.59 inches below normal. There were no major weather disturbances. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

The ornithological event of the year was the discovery of a nesting pair of Yellow-throated Warblers at Science Lake in the Quaker Run Valley of Allegany State Park in July. Significantly, the discovery came on the heels of the announcement that the first breeding pair of this species for New York State was discovered in Greene County near Albany in June by Dave Gagne of Jamestown who was 'on loan' as a field worker for the N.Y. State Federation of Bird Clubs Bird Atlas Project in that area. On July 9th, Tim Baird of Salamanca Discovered a singing male Yellow-throated Warbler in an area of mixed evergreen species, mostly White Pine, Scotch Pine and Red Pine near Allegany State Park Route #3 at Science Lake. Because the nesting season was well advanced at this time, the presence of a singing male excited speculation as to the possibility of a mated pair on July 15th. Baird found the male Yellow-throated Warbler again at the same location. Among the local bird-watchers who came to the scene hoping to add this warbler to their life lists were Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter of Niagara Falls. On July 21st, they found the male warbler on territory in full song and Ms. Potter discovered it flying to a nest some 60 feet up in a Red Pine where it brought food, apparently for nestlings. It was joined by a second Yellow-throated Warbler, a female and both birds were observed feeding the young. Two weeks later, Tim Baird with the assistance of a 'cherry picker', provided by State Park personnel and by employing his own climbing skills, recovered the abandoned nest and turned it over to Dr. Robert Andrle for deposit in the collection of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences.

Among other interesting records received in July were Harold Axtell's sightings at the Cannery Ponds in St. David's, Niagara-on-the-Lake Township, Ontario. While many shorebirds visited the mud flats and shores of these ponds, there were no rarities and a Wilson's Phalarope seen there by Axtell on July 28th was probably the most exciting bird. On July 30th, he reported 300 Lesser Yellowlegs, 900 Semipalmated Sandpipers and 16 Stilt Sandpipers from this location. Earlier in the month, on July 18th, Axtell observed an adult male Ruff in eclipse plumage at the east end of Erie Beach in the Town of Fort Erie, Ontario. He had a good look at the bird with both 10 x 50 binoculars and a Balscope with 40x and 60x eyepieces, clearly noting the narrow white wing stripes and two elongated elliptical white spots on the tail, diagnostic for the species regardless of the plumage variety of males in breeding season. This particular male had irregular scattered dorsal black spots on the body with a large, solid black patch across the breast, apparently residual nuptial plumage not yet molting. The bird remained at Erie Beach, usually in the company of a few Lesser Yellowlegs until mid-afternoon on July 19th and was seen by several observers there.

Bob Andrie and Bob Brock saw a female Acadian Flycatcher feeding young in a nest on a wooded slope in a Beech-Maple-Hemlock woods in the Town of Ripley in Chautauqua County on July 2nd. A very early migrant or wandering Swainson's Thrush was present at Rose Hill Road, Ontario between July 28th and 31st.

On July 20th, Vivian Pitzrick heard the distinctive (and familiar) long, drawn out "buzz" song of a Clay-colored Sparrow while engaged in nest finding on Wadsworth Hill in Ward Township in Allegany County. She located the bird and observed it at a distance of sixty feet, noting the faint pale crown stripe and the brown cheek patch diagnostic for the species. She had previously glimpsed the bird at this site on July 13th. It apparently was an unmated male. Elizabeth Brooks reported an adult Clay-colored Sparrow in the Town of Alfred. The bird was seen on three occasions; on July 22nd it was in the company of newly fledged Chipping Sparrows and on the 29th, it was seen with a family of Field Sparrows. Mrs. Brooks also reported two singing male White-throated Sparrows in the Town of Alfred in July, one on the McAndrews Road White Spruce Plantation and one on the Vandermark Road Norway Spruce Plantation.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY 14217

* * * * *

JULY NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Least Bittern	July	7	1 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
Great Egret	"	5-22	1-4 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
Northern Pintail	"	10,17	1,1 Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
Common Merganser	"	1,8,13	4,1,4 Amity Lake	Pitzricks, Adams
Bald Eagle	"	4,11	2,1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	17	1 Town of Belfast	Pitzrick
		(adult)		
	"	17	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
		(immature)		
	"	21	1 Oak Orchard WMA	Endres
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	12	1 Town of Akron	Andrle
	"	17	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	20	1 Town of Charlotte	Rew
Cooper's Hawk	"	11,18	1,1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	13-31	1-3 Town of Elma	Forsberg
	"	18	1 Town of Scio	Pitzrick
Black-bell. Plover	"	29 F	4 Moulton Twp., Ont.	Axtell (BOS)
Semipalm. Plover	"	13 F	1 Oak Orchard WMA	Endres
	"	17	2 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
Greater Yellowlegs	"	7 F	1 Navy Island, Ont.	D'Anna
	"	10	1 Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
Lesser Yellowlegs	"	4 F	1 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
	"	7	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	Hess
	"	7	6 Navy Island, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	30	300 St. David's, Ont.	Axtell
Solitary Sandpiper	"	14 F, 21	4,5 Oak Orchard WMA	Endres
	"	21	3 Town of Kiantone	Mosher et al
	"	29	2 Smithville, Ont.	D'Anna (BOS)
Ruddy Turnstone	"	24 F	4 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	27	4 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
Sanderling	"	24 F	8 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
Semipalm. Sandpiper	"	11 F	1 Oak Orchard WMA	Endres
	"	24	100 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	30	900 St. David's, Ont.	Axtell
Least Sandpiper	"	4 F	3 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
	"	13	31 Oak Orchard WMA	Endres

Volume 50, No. 8 "July Noteworthy Records" cont.

Pectoral Sandpiper	July 11 F, 21	2, 15	Oak Orchard WMA	Endres
"	" 21	4	Town of Kiantone	Mosher et al
*Stilt Sandpiper	" 24 F	1	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
"	" 30	16	St. David's, Ont.	Axtell
*Ruff	" 18, 19	1, 1	Erie Beach, Ont.	Axtell et al
Short-b. Dowitcher	" 4 F	1	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
"	" 17	4	Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
"	" 30	15	St. David's, Ont.	Axtell
Common Snipe	" 21	28	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
Wilson's Phalarope	" 28 F	1	St. David's, Ont.	Axtell
Bonaparte's Gull	" 13	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
Caspian Tern	" 7	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	Hess
"	" 29	3	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Axtell (BOS)
Red-headed Wdpkr.	" 1	1	Town of Alabama	Endres
"	" 29	2	Cherry Creek	Rew, Buck
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	" 3	1	Town of Leon	Rew, Buck
"	" 3	2	Town of Dayton	Rew, Buck
"	" 7	1	Tonawanda Ind. Res.	Endres
Acadian Flycatcher	" 2	1	Town of Ripley	Andrle et al
(feeding young in the nest)				
Cliff Swallow	" 22	15	Allegany St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
Tufted Titmouse	" 1-31	1-3	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Brown Creeper	" 10	2	Springville	O'Dell
Winter Wren	" 31	1	Collins	O'Dell
Marsh Wren	" 21	4	Town of Kiantone	Mosher et al
Golden-cr. Kinglet	" 2, 8, 23, 28	1-6	Alfred	Brooks
(previously documented breeding areas)				
Eastern Bluebird	" 2, 6	1, 2	Town of Leon	Rew, Buck
"	" 8	6	Town of Conewango	Rew, Buck
"	" 26	1	Town of Chautauqua	Mosher
"	" 30	5	Alfred	Brooks
Swainson's Thrush	" 28 F-31	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
Hermit Thrush	" 3	1	Alfred	Brooks
"	" 8	1	Wellsville	Pitzricks
"	" 14	1	Town of Amity	Pitzricks
"	" 23	2	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	" 28	1	Town of Ward	Pitzrick
Yellow-rumped Warbler	" 1-4, 9-28	1-2	Wales	Rosche
"	" 2-29	1-4	Alfred	Brooks
"	" 3, 7	1, 1	Town of Leon	Rew, Buck
Yellow-thr. Warbler	" 20, 21	1, 2	Allegany St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
(July 21-feeding young in the nest)				
Prairie Warbler	" 1-24	1-3	Alfred	Brooks
(previously documented breeding area)				
Bl.-&-w. Warbler	" 19, 31	1, 1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	" 21	1	Allegany St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
Prothonotary Warbler	" 22	2	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Clay-colored Sparrow	" 4, 22, 29	1, 1, 1	Alfred	Brooks
(previously documented June, 1984)				
"	" 13, 20	1, 1	Town of Ward	Pitzrick
"	" 21	1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick

Vesper Sparrow	July	4	1 Pendleton	D'Anna et al
"	"	23	1 Alfred	Brooks
Henslow's Sparrow	"	10-29	1 Boston	O'Dell
"	"	18	1 Town of Ellery	Mosher, Mahoney
"	"	22, 23	4, 5 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	28	1 Town of Westfield	Mosher
White-thr. Sparrow	"	4-29	2 Alfred	Brooks
(previously documented breeding area)				

Species, subspecies, & hybrids previously recorded.	252
Species, subspecies, & hybrids recorded this issue.	<u>2</u>
Total for year.	254

* * * * *

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

Niagara Peninsula Shorebird Trip, July 29, 1984

About twenty B.O.S. members and guests took advantage of the perfect weather to see and study the birds at seven of the Niagara Peninsula's shorebirding spots. At "Jaeger Rocks," where some of us had seen a molting adult male Ruff several days earlier, we found few of the wader we sought. There was, however, a flock of about 200 Black Terns in various plumages.

At Erie Beach and Waverly Beach there were not many waders, so we continued westward to Rock Point Park which, as anticipated, harbored a good variety of sandpiper species for us to study.

Inasmuch as the birds there usually permit a close approach, everyone was kept busy until lunch time examining the birds, calling attention to new arrivals, some asking questions about identification, others answering and explaining.

Other birds were not overlooked, such as a large number of a variety of gulls and terns resting on the tip of the point. Three Caspian Terns, one in juvenal plumage, flew back and forth. A variety of swallows flew past. The annual late-summer gathering of Blue-winged Teal was clearly underway.

After lunch we made a brief visit to the large sod farm north of Lowbanks, though we knew it was too early in the season for the more interesting Shorebirds to have arrived. We found only a number of Killdeer and four Black-bellied Plover.

We continued on to the Smithville sewage ponds where again we found shorebird numbers and variety more than sufficient to keep us entertained for an interesting couple of hours.

Niagara Peninsula Shorebird Trip (cont.)

And so the day ended, with fifty-nine kinds of birds seen, of which fifteen species were shorebirds.

Harold H. Axtell

1984 SPRING HAWK MIGRATION

by: Walter Klabunde

The 1984 hawk migration season at Beamer involved 563 hours of observation over 82 days but differed from past seasons in several respects. A prolonged warm spell from 9-25 February made it possible to record 258 "preseason" hawks including a Turkey Vulture and Golden Eagle. However, the month ended with a major snow storm, and poor weather persisting for three weeks literally stopped the migration. Hawk movements were irregular during the next five weeks when all species except Vultures, Sharpshins and Kestrels came through in good numbers. By 23 April it became apparent that the barrier for hawk flights would be lowered on the next favorable break in the weather. However, nobody anticipated the tremendous numbers that would come through in the next few days -- 10,690 at Grimsby from 26-29 April; 44,690 at Braddock Bay from 26-30 April; 44,174 at Derby Hill from 26-30 April all on the south shore of Lake Ontario; and 14,000 from 25-27 April at Ottawa NWR near Toledo, Ohio on the south shore of Lake Erie where the hawks move west just like at Beamer. Finally in May most species followed their normal pattern. Only Sharpshins and Broadwings, the principal migrants, were low in numbers making the total for the month much lower than normal. Despite this, the seasons total, 18,402, was over 2,300 more than the previous high in 1981.

Four species, namely Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk and Osprey, established record highs while American Kestrel numbers were the lowest in five years of complete 3 month coverage. Goshawks, Red-tailed Hawks, Rough-legged Hawks, Golden Eagles and Northern Harriers ranked in 2nd place for the same period, while Sharp-shinned Hawks were in 3rd place and Turkey Vultures and Bald Eagles were down to 4th place in the 5 year period. For the second time in as many years, no Peregrine Falcon was seen at Beamer while 2 Merlins were recorded -- a tie for 2nd place with two other years.

A beginning was made in making observations on the south shore of Lake Erie. Apparently Ripley, N.Y., where Forsythe Rd. crosses the N.Y. Thruway has the attributes of a good hawk lookout sight. Together with an inland auxiliary location (Belsom Rd. Communication Tower), eight reports from these locations and another from Pinehurst, N.Y., made by the team of Rew and Buck, are summarized in Table II. It is noted that 41 Broadwings were reported at Ripley on 15 April, a week before that number were recorded at either Braddock Bay or Beamer - a simple but significant fact. Unfortunately, no reports were turned in for the 26-30 April period when over 50,000 hawks passed east along the south shore region of Lake Erie.

Spring Hawk Migration (cont.)

The code letter for auxiliary lookouts when used at Beamer are as follows in Table I: L - Lakeside; M - Mountain Rd.; P - Grimsby Plain; W - Woolverton Rd. In Table II the three lookout areas are designated as follows: B - Belsom Rd. Tower (Ripley); P - Pinehurst, N.Y.; and R - Ripley, N.Y. Species key in both tables are:

TV - Turkey Vulture	GE - Golden Eagle
GO - Goshawk	BE - Bald Eagle
SS - Sharp-shinned Hawk	NH - Northern Harrier
CH - Cooper's Hawk	OS - Osprey
RT - Red-tailed Hawk	ML - Merlin
RS - Red-shouldered Hawk	AK - American Kestrel
BW - Broad-winged Hawk	UR - Unidentified Raptor
RL - Rough-legged Hawk	

4923 Creek Road
Lewiston, NY 14092

TABLE I

1984 SPRING HAWK FLIGHT SUMMARY - GRIMSBY ONTARIO

Date	Hours	TV	GO	SS	CH	RT	RS	BW	RL	GE	BE	NH	OS	ML	AK	UR	Total
2/19	1.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
P 23 P	1.6	1	-	-	-	94	3	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	101
24	4.8	-	-	-	-	142	1	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	147
26	2.5	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Feb.																	
Tot.	10.4	1	-	-	-	244	4	-	4	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	258
3/01	0.0	SNOW EMERGENCY - ROADS CLOSED															0
02	5.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
03	5.6	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
04	4.8	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
05	0.0	RAIN															0
06	4.8	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4
07	4.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
08	2.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
09	2.5	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
10	6.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
11	3.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
12	4.5	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
13	0.0	SNOW															0
14	7.5	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
15	7.8	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
16	0.0	NOT COVERED															0
17	8.0	-	1	-	-	20	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	24
18	8.0	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
19	5.1	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
20 L+	8.2	-	-	-	-	20	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	26
21	4.2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
22	0.0	SNOW															0
23	6.0	-	-	-	-	19	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
24	8.6	1	11	1	-	329	16	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	6	43	411
25	8.6	4	7	2	11	267	66	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	11	372
26	7.0	6	5	3	5	177	46	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	1	3	250
27	8.0	3	3	-	6	78	21	-	2	-	-	3	-	-	1	5	122
28	6.0	-	1	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
29	0.0	RAIN AND SNOW															0
30	5.5	-	1	-	2	16	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	24
31	9.0	32	1	9	11	171	120	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	379
Mar.																	
Tot.	149.0	46	31	15	35	1134	277	-	14	-	2	8	-	-	16	96	1644

TABLE I
(Continued)

Date	Hours	TV	GO	SS	CH	RT	RS	BW	RL	GE	BE	NH	OS	ML	AK	UR	Total	
4/01 P+	17.4	152	5	19	12	279	162	-	2	-	3	4	-	-	6	167	810	
02	7.7	141	4	12	5	143	89	-	2	-	-	7	-	-	2	56	461	
03	8.0	5	3	65	15	282	211	-	3	1	-	4	-	-	1	29	619	
04	5.7	19	3	23	4	41	9	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	2	1	107	
05	0.0	NOT COVERED																0
06 L+	5.5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	
07	8.0	6	-	4	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	
08	9.0	40	1	23	7	151	17	-	4	-	-	5	-	-	-	23	271	
09	7.5	4	-	3	2	53	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67	
10	7.0	22	-	7	-	76	8	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	119	
11	7.3	8	-	22	3	74	4	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	114	
12	7.5	1	1	88	4	98	8	-	6	-	-	12	-	-	3	2	223	
13	7.5	-	1	8	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	15	
14	9.0	21	1	373	20	44	2	1	1	-	-	11	2	-	1	18	495	
15	5.7	6	2	96	1	4	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	10	122	
16	4.5	FOG - DRIZZLE & RAIN																0
17	7.0	-	-	49	4	9	3	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	70	
18	7.3	5	-	28	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	39	
19	7.0	8	1	29	2	27	14	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	88	
20	8.3	2	1	6	1	5	-	3	2	-	-	1	2	-	1	2	26	
21	8.8	12	1	14	2	19	-	8	3	-	-	1	5	-	1	5	71	
22	9.7	10	3	81	8	63	4	138	11	-	-	7	-	-	5	38	368	
23	6.0	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	
24	0.0	FOG - DRIZZLE & RAIN																0
25	10.0	19	-	29	4	29	2	29	4	-	-	1	3	-	-	19	139	
26	10.0	15	4	436	5	27	2	3159	5	2	-	5	6	-	4	13	3683	
27 M+	9.0	1	-	391	5	7	1	745	-	-	-	3	1	-	1	73	1228	
28	11.0	15	-	1231	6	46	6	2776	6	-	-	2	2	-	3	15	4108	
29 W+	14.4	17	2	631	19	104	6	829	6	-	-	9	3	-	5	40	1671	
30	7.0	-	-	61	2	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	75	
Apr.																		
Tot	232.8	529	33	3734	133	1592	552	7704	62	4	3	83	27	-	37	520	15113	

TABLE I
(Continued)

Date	Hours	TV	GO	SS	CH	RT	RS	BW	RL	GE	BE	NH	OS	ML	AK	UR	Total
5/01	7.3	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4
02	7.2	2	-	33	-	13	-	24	1	-	-	1	3	-	1	3	81
03	7.5	1	-	53	-	12	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	70
04	0.0	RAIN															0
05	9.0	5	1	53	8	6	-	11	1	1	-	3	-	-	-	6	95
06	7.5	1	1	247	8	31	1	52	1	-	-	7	-	-	-	5	354
07	7.3	1	-	121	1	6	1	14	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	147
08	5.5	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
09	7.0	3	-	15	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	22
10	7.3	9	-	33	-	8	1	6	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	59
11	7.0	-	-	74	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	80
12	7.0	-	-	99	-	3	-	4	-	-	-	5	3	-	-	-	114
13	3.5	-	-	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
14	7.3	1	-	77	-	8	-	3	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	92
15	6.8	1	-	5	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
16	7.2	4	-	13	-	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	29
17	7.8	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5
18	7.2	-	1	66	5	9	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	84
19	0.0	NO COVERAGE															0
20	0.0	NO COVERAGE															0
21	7.0	-	-	-	-	7	1	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	12
22	6.3	1	-	4	-	8	-	7	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	2	25
23	4.0	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
24	6.7	-	-	3	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
25	7.2	4	-	2	-	3	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	14
26	0.0	NO COVERAGE															0
27	2.2	5	-	-	-	6	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	4	21
28	0.0	RAIN & SHOWERS															0
29	4.2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
30	6.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
31	7.0	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
<hr/>																	
May																	
Tot.	170.4	40	3	935	22	135	5	140	5	1	-	32	11	2	3	24	1358
<hr/>																	
Season																	
Tot.	562.6	616	67	4684	190	3105	838	7844	85	6	5	127	38	2	56	640	18403

Spring Hawk Migration cont.

TABLE II

1984 SPRING HAWK FLIGHT SUMMARY
SOUTH SHORE LAKE ERIE AT
RIPLEY AND PINEHURST, N.Y.

Date	Hours	TV	GO	SS	CH	RT	RS	BW	RL	GE	BE	NH	OS	ML	AK	OR	Total
3/31 R	3.0	85	1	6	2	146	44	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	288
4/01 R	4.7	156	1	10	1	86	53	-	4	-	-	2	-	-	-	30	343
02 P	3.0	5	-	7	1	42	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	94
02 R	2.8	31	-	4	-	18	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	57	114
13 R	5.7	115	1	19	-	37	-	-	2	-	-	6	2	-	5	2	189
14 R	4.0	29	-	27	1	22	6	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	4	-	94
15 R	1.0	14	-	4	2	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	29
15 B	3.0	22	-	15	2	23	3	41	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	111
22 R	5.0	24	-	63	-	18	-	39	-	-	-	1	1	-	6	18	170
Total	32.2	481	3	155	9	397	141	80	11	-	-	18	4	-	16	117	1432

* * * * *

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

- October 10th: Jerry Farrell: Banding of Daytime Raptors. Mr. Farrell has been studying hawks and banding them for some time now. He will discuss some of his research and discoveries in what promises to be a fascinating evening.
- October 24th: Annual Meeting, Election of Officers. Remainder of program to be announced.
- November 9th: Annual Banquet (55th Anniversary!) -- See elsewhere in this issue for more details.

December 12th: Fifth Year Summary of NYS Breeding Bird Atlas Project. Bob Andrie and Bob Brock will continue their fine job of reporting the results of Atlas work this fifth and, supposedly, final year of the effort. New findings and possible future work will be covered.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman, (885-0474; Buffalo, N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

October 14th: Fall Census. Compiler: Barbara Walker 649-1242.

October 21st: Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, etc. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Transitown Plaza at Citibank or at 9:30 a.m. at the Cayuga Overlook. Leader: Dick Christensen 632-7762.

November 4th: Fort Erie & Canadian Shore for Gulls and Waterfowl. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Vermont and Busti or 8:15 a.m. at first parking lot south of Peace Bridge in Fort Erie. Leader: Fran Rew 649-4192.

November 18th: Niagara River joint trip with the GOS. Meet at Old Fort Niagara at 9:30 a.m. Leaders: Dick Byron 892-9496; Bob Spahn (GOS) 671-5690.

December 16th: Christmas Bird Count.

For further information about field trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairman (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, New York 14304.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

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SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

\$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Shirley Wake (typing).

Editorial Board: Marian Dornhaffer, Bradley Lown, Julia Wells

EDITOR:

Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

55th ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

The BOS will hold its 55th anniversary banquet on Friday, November 9, 1984 at the Thirty-Eighth Floor Restaurant atop the Marine Midland Center, downtown Buffalo. A six-course feast will commence at 7:15 p.m., preceded by a cash bar at 6:30. The meeting will take place immediately after the meal. The agenda will include our usual business and a featured speaker. Dr. Paul Sotherland, currently at the Department of Physiology at SUNY-Buffalo, will discuss his favorite topic -- the interaction of bird's eggs and water. His presentation is titled "Eared Grebe Eggs: A Tale of Water, Microbes, and Gortex." Paul has written or co-written eight articles on this subject; his expertise should provide an intriguing and highly educational presentation. Join other BOS members and friends for a fine meal, an excellent talk, and the best view of Buffalo on November 9. Reservations may be sent to:

Marc J. Chelemer
Banquet Reservations
339 Hoyt Street
Buffalo, NY 14213

Reservations must be received by November 5. SEE YOU THERE!!!

YES!! I will attend the 55th Anniversary Banquet on November 9. Who would miss it? I have indicated my meal choice(s) below and have enclosed a check or money order to cover the meal costs. Prices include tax and gratuity.

	Cream of Broccoli Soup
	Salad with Garden Vegetables
Roast Eye of Prime Rib	Crabmeat Stuffed Sole
(Au Jus)	(Mornay Sauce)
	Rice Pilaf and Stir-Fried Vegetables
	Hot French Bread and Butter
	Spiced-Apple Sundae
	Coffee, Tea, Sanka, or Milk

Beef @ \$16.50 _____

Sole @ \$18.80 _____

Total Enclosed _____

Name and Address _____

71
96
50
9
984

THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY

VOLUME 50

SEPTEMBER 1984

ITHACA N.Y. 14853 NUMBER 9

NOV 1 1984

THE MONTH

The hot and humid weather which characterized July continued well into August with temperatures averaging 5° (F) above normal for the first 16 days of the month. Northeast winds on August 17th brought cloudy, cooler weather and, following rain on the 18th and 19th, a record low temperature reading of 47° (F) on the 20th. The week of cool weather following was reflected in the reports of increased passerine migration although the first migrant warbler of the season was a Northern Waterthrush reported by Willie D'Anna on August 8th at St. David's, Ontario. The average temperature for the month was 70.3° (F), 1.4° above average. Rainfall in August measured 4.16 inches, exactly average for the period. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Most of the records received by the compiler in August involve the autumn passage of migrants through our study area although there are always a few reports of late summer vagrants that warrant mention in these pages. On August 22nd, Art Schaffner and others saw a most unusual bird, a female Northern Shoveler at Rock Point Provincial Park. Also on that date, Schaffner and Frances Rew found a second year Glaucous Gull among a flock of Herring Gulls at Erie Beach in the Town of Fort Erie, Ontario. The bird was perched on the breakwall at the west end of the beach where in its "glaring white" plumage it contrasted sharply with the smaller immature and adult Herring Gulls with which it associated. Earlier, on the 18th, Schaffner and Rew reported a Northern Pintail in a feeder canal in Wainfleet Township, Ontario. They also saw several small scoters of non-descript plumage in Lake Erie at Rock Point Provincial Park which they were unable to identify as to species. On August 31st, Dave Cooper of Lewiston observed a Common-Black-headed Gull sitting among the Bonaparte's Gulls on rocks in the shallow rapids of the Niagara River near Three Sisters Island at Niagara Falls. The bird was a molting adult but the characteristic red legs, dark red bill and larger size of the Black-headed Gull in comparison to the Bonaparte's Gulls with which it associated were all clearly noted.

Don Endres saw an unusual summer visitor at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on August 7th, an adult Osprey perched in a dead tree on a small islet in Ring Neck Pond on Sour Springs Road in the refuge. The bird was observed to leave its perch on several occasions to stoop at the pond's surface in unsuccessful attempts to catch a fish. He saw another Osprey, presumably the same bird, at this location on August 14th. On August 13th, Vivian Pitzrick was advised by Mal Adams of Allegany County that he saw an Osprey at Amity Lake in the Town of Alfred in that county and on the 23rd, Grace O'Dell reported one at the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve in Buffalo.

August was a good month for observing shorebirds although none of the species seen at the favored haunts of Buffalo and Niagara Peninsula observers were truly remarkable for their rareness. The heavy deposits of algae along the north shore of Lake Erie proved most attractive while the high water levels at the Cannery Ponds at St. David's, Ontario probably limited the number of birds seen there although two maximum counts worthy of note include 45 Short-billed Dowitchers and 110 Least Sandpipers seen at that site by Robert Andrie and others on the 19th. Two Wilson's Phalaropes were seen at the sewage ponds at Smithville in Lincoln County, Ontario on August 12th and Terry Mosher and Morgan Jones reported two Baird's Sandpipers and two White-rumped Sandpipers at Dunkirk Harbor on the 14th.

Bonaparte's Gulls were in evidence on the Niagara River in good numbers by mid month in August and among them a few Little Gulls. Art Schaffner and Terry Mosher saw an adult Little Gull in breeding plumage in the North Harbor at Buffalo during a field trip of the Lake Erie Bird Club of Chautauqua County to this area on August 18th; Bruce Duncan reported an immature Little Gull at Rock Point Provincial Park on the same date. On the previous day, Williw D'Anna and Betsy Potter saw two Little Gulls at Niagara Falls and another at Goat Island in the Niagara River at that city on August 29th. The first Franklin's Gull of the migration was reported from Rock Point Provincial Park by Art Schaffner and Frances Rew on August 22nd. An immature Forster's Tern was seen among a post-breeding flock of Common Terns at Rock Point Provincial Park on August 4th; another immature Forster's Tern, possibly the same bird, was seen at that location during the joint B.O.S. - Genesee Ornithological Society field trip on the 26th.

Vivian Pitzrick writes of an interesting item of diet of a Great Horned Owl. On August 28th, the Pitzricks observed the owl feeding on a freshly caught 1 lb., 10 oz. fish they identified as a sucker on the lawn of their property on the shore of Amity Lake. As the fish was apparently too large to lift, the owl dragged it to brush nearby where an inspection by the Pitzricks on the following morning revealed that most of it had been consumed with the exception of a few entrails and the swim bladder.

The Swainson's Thrush first reported in late July by Harold Axtell at his sanctuary on the Rose Hill Road in the Town of Fort Erie, was seen there almost daily throughout August.

More information is now available on the pair of Yellow-throated Warblers discovered nesting near Science Lake in the Quaker Bridge section of Allegany State Park in July; as noted in our last column in this newsletter, the discovery was only

the second nesting record for the species in New York State and the site is officially in the Town of Red House in Cattaraugus County. The observers, Tim Baird, Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter, clearly saw the blue-gray crown and back and the bright yellow throats and upper breasts of both the male and female birds; the face was strongly patterned with large black cheek patches and contrasting white eye-brows. Both birds flashed white in their tails while flying among the conifers where they were observed. The nest was located about ten feet below the pinnacle of a 50 foot Red Pine and both adults were observed through scopes feeding young in it on several occasions. The male was heard singing on several occasions; it was a fairly musical song, rather loud with distinct syllables.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY 14217

* * * * *

AUGUST NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

American Bittern	Aug.	12,19	1,1 Iroquois NWR	Seamans
Least Bittern	"	4	1 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
Great Egret	"	17	1 Gasline, Ont.	Klepfer
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	9	1 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Hess, O'Dell
	"	26	1 Rock Pt, Prov. Pk.	Seamans
Bl.-cr. Night Heron	"	1,8	10,1 Buffalo	Hess
	"	5	1 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
	"	22	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Mallard	"	22	150 Thorold, Ont.	Klabunde et al
Hooded Merganser	"	12 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Seamans
	"	22	1 Smithville, Ont.	Zebehazy, Turisk
Red-br. Merganser	"	12	1 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Duncan
Osprey	"	<u>7 F, 14</u>	1,1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	23	1 Tiffit Farm N.P.	O'Dell
Bald Eagle	"	4	1 Batavia	Schaffner
		(immature)		
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	4	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Broad-wing. Hawk	"	2,31	1,1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	6	1 Allegany St. Pk.	Hess
	"	10	1 Jamestown	Elderkins
	"	18	2 Cuba	Baird

Volume 50, No. 9 "August Noteworthy Records" cont.

Black-bell. Plover	Aug.	9	1	Morgan's Pt., Ont.	Hess
"	"	9	1	Rathfon Pt., Ont.	Hess
"	"	13,27	30,6	Lewiston	Farrell, Klabundes
"	"	18	21	Moulton Twp., Ont.	Lake Erie BC (Schaffner)
"	"	22	1	St. David's, Ont.	Klabunde et al
Lesser Golden Plover	"	24 F	1	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Duncan
Greater Yellowlegs	"	19	9	St. David's, Ont.	Andrle et al
Red Knot	"	12 F, 18, 31	4, 1, 4	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Duncan
"	"	18	1	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Lake Erie BC (Schaffner)
Sanderling	"	18	4	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Lake Erie BC (Schaffner)
Least Sandpiper	"	19	110	St. David's, Ont.	Andrle et al
W.-rump. Sandpiper	"	12F, 18, 24, 31	2, 1, 2, 1	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Duncan, Andrle et al
"	"	18	1	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Lake Erie BC (Schaffner)
Baird's Sandpiper	"	14 F	2	Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Jones
Dunlin	"	22 F	1	Smithville, Ont.	D'Anna et al
Stilt Sandpiper	"	4	7	Smithville, Ont.	Andrle et al
"	"	22	4	Smithville, Ont.	Klabunde, Turisk et al
"	"	22	2	St. David's, Ont.	Klabunde et al
Short-b. Dowitcher	"	18	25	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Lake Erie BC (Schaffner)
"	"	19	45	St. David's, Ont.	Andrle et al
"	"	22	18	St. David's, Ont.	Klabunde et al
"	"	29	1	Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
Common Snipe	"	22	1	Smithville, Ont.	Klabunde, Turisk et al
Wilson's Phalarope	"	2	2	Smithville, Ont.	Andrle et al
"	"	9	2	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Hess
*Franklin's Gull	"	22 F	1	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Schaffner, Rew
Little Gull	"	17 F	2	Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	18	1	Buffalo	Lake Erie BC (Schaffner)
"	"	18	1	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Duncan
"	"	26	1	Buffalo	Turisk, Souden
"	"	29	1	Goat Island	D'Anna
C. Bl.-headed Gull	"	31	1	Goat Island	Cooper
Glaucous Gull	"	22	1	Waverly Beach, Ont.	Schaffner, Rew
Gr. Black-b. Gull	"	18	19	Morgan's Pt., Ont.	Lake Erie BC (Schaffner)
"	"	31	52	Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
"	"	31	20+	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Duncan
*Forster's Tern	"	4 F	1	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Duncan, Andrle et al
Black Tern	"	18	40	Ft. Erie, Ont.	Souden, Turisk
"	"	18	20	Buffalo	Lake Erie BC (Schaffner)

Volume 50, No. 9 "August Noteworthy Records" cont.

Common Nighthawk	Aug.	26	12 Amherst	Hess
"	"	26	45 Buffalo	Hess
Chimney Swift	"	26	120 Buffalo	Turisk, Souden
"	"	29	1000+ Ft. Erie, Ont.	O. Rosche
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	5	1 Batavia	Endres
"	"	14	1 Riverside	Elderkins
"	"	26	5 Ft. Niag. St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	1	1 Iroquois NWR	Hess
"	"	14	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Cliff Swallow	"	4,11	1,2 Town of Portland	Mosher
E. Wood Pewee	"	15	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
(on nest, 2 eggs - latest NYS record)				
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-11	1-2 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	19 F	1 Orchard Park	O'Dell
Brown Creeper	"	1	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	4	1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	5	1 Salamanca	Baird
Carolina Wren	"	22	1 Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
House Wren	"	28	4 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
(young in nest - latest NYS record)				
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	4	3 Alfred	Brooks
Eastern Bluebird	"	11	6-7 Town of Chautauqua	Mosher
"	"	14	1 Oakfield	Endres
"	20,28,31	10,9,2	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	22	2 Jamestown	Elderkins
Swainson's Thrush	"	1-31	1 Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
"	"	31	2 Ft. Niag. St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
Hermit Thrush	"	5	1 Salamanca	Baird
N. Mockingbird	"	22	3 Queenston, Ont.	Klabunde et al
"	"	27	2 Lewiston	Klabundes
Philadelphia Vireo	"	31 F	1 Ft. Niag. St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
Tennessee Warbler	"	30 F	12 Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
Nashville Warbler	"	24 F	2 Ft. Niag. St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
Magnolia Warbler	"	24 F	3 Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	24 F	5 Ft. Niag. St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	26	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Seamans
Cape May Warbler	"	30 F	4 Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
Bl.-thr. Blue Warbler	"	26 F	2 Erie Beach, Ont.	Seamans
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	23 F	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
"	"	26	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Seamans
Blackburnian Warbler	"	24 F	3 Ft. Niag. St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
Prairie Warbler	"	8	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
(previously documented area)				
Bay-br. Warbler	"	11 F	1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	17	1 Windmill Pt., Ont..	D'Anna, Potter
Blackpoll Warbler	"	31 F	5 Ft. Niag. St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
Cerulean Warbler	"	5	1 Salamanca	Baird
Bl.-&-w. Warbler	"	5	2 Salamanca	Baird
"	"	26 F	2 Erie Beach, Ont.	Seamans
"	"	30	3 Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter

Nor. Waterthrush	Aug.	8 F	1 St. David's, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	12	1 Windmill Pt., Ont.	Andrle et al
Wilson's Warbler	"	24 F	1 Ft. Niag. St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	30	1 Alfred	Brooks
Canada Warbler	"	17 F	1 Windmill Pt., Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
Vesper Sparrow	"	4	1 Town of Portland	Mosher
Henslow's Sparrow	"	3	2 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	8	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.	254
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue.	<u>2</u>
Total for year	256

* * * * *

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

1984 Fish & Wildlife Cooperative Breeding Bird Survey in Western N.Y.

by: Walter Klabunde

Since 1967 members and friends of B.O.S. have cooperated in this breeding bird project. The details of procedure and route descriptions are presented in The Prothonotary Vol. 33 No. 10 pages 123-7 (1967) and Vol. 34 No. 10 page 112 (1968). This year seventeen of the eighteen routes were covered. The following listing shows the cooperators for each of the routes in which the new assistants are underlined:

<u>Route #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Observer</u>	<u>Assistant</u>
045	Phillip's Creek	Doris Burton	Mary Jordan
046	Swain	Elizabeth W. Brooks	Clarence Klingensmith
052	Mt. Morris	Douglas Bassett	- - - - -
053	Hamburg	Bill Bogacki	Esther Becker
054	West Seneca	Marie Wendling	Clare Henderson
055	Gainesville	Mary Batcheller	- - - - -
056	Cattaraugus	No report	
057	East Java	David Junkin	Martha Junkin
058	Castile	Douglas Bassett	- - - - -
059	Randolph	Stephen W. Eaton	<u>Timothy Baird</u>

1984 Fish & Wildlife Survey cont.

<u>Route #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Observer</u>	<u>Assistant</u>
060	Centerville	Wavel Barber	Maxine Barber
061	Sheridan	Frances Rew	Lois Buck
062	Cherry Hill	Robert A. Sundell	<u>Frank Gardner</u>
063	Nashville	Robert M. Wagner	Edith N. Wagner
064	St. Johnsburg	Alice McKale	Jack & Margaret Wright
065	E. Youngstown	Harriette Klabunde	Walter Klabunde
066	Byron	Elva Hawken	David Keller
111	S. Vandalia	Regina Van Scoy	James Van Scoy

Table I shows the number of each species recorded and the percentage of routes in which each species was recorded. A total of 114 species and 17,537 individuals were recorded. The number of species per route varied from 43 to 73 with 55 as the median while total individuals per route varied from 627 to 1863 with 370 as the median. An asterisk after the species name indicates the species has been recorded every year of this project. The status of each species compared with the previous 16 years is also noted after the name. This status is derived from the number recorded for the species for each of the 17 years on the program. Thus H+ designates a record high, H is second highest or equal to the previous high and H- is the third highest. N+ denotes 4th to 6th place while N equals 7th to 11th place and N- is in the 12th to 14th place. Finally, L+ indicates 3rd lowest number or 15th place, L is second lowest or 16th place and L- stands for an all time low.

The number in each status category were:

H+ - 11	N+ - 16	L+ - 5
H - 22	N - 21	L - 7
H- - <u>11</u>	N- - <u>14</u>	L- - <u>7</u>
44	51	19

The preponderance of highs over lows indicates that this might be considered a better than average year. In part this view may be temporized when taking into account the species normally recorded but missing again this year. The eight missing species together with the years missing are:

Pied-billed Grebe	8	Upland Sandpiper	2
Black Duck	9*	Brown Creeper	6
Blue-winged Teal	5	Golden-winged Warbler	9*
Ruffed Grouse	8	Black-throated Blue Warbler	8

*now classified as normally missing.

1984 Fish & Wildlife Survey cont.

Conversely, eight species missing most years recorded this year for the nth time are:

Canada Goose	4	Winter Wren	5
Sora	3	Nor. Mockingbird	6
Acadian Flycatcher	4	Nor. Waterthrush	5
Tufted Titmouse	5	House Finch	3

Although House Finches have only been recorded the last three years in this project, their presence in 82% of the routes indicates how widespread they have become.

Checking the numbers for all species over the seventeen years of the program it becomes evident that some 15 species appear to be on the increase while 16 species are decreasing in numbers. These are noted below.

Species on the increase

Turkey Vulture
Ring-billed Gull
Mourning Dove
Barn Swallow
Black-capped Chickadee
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Blue-winged Warbler
Yellow Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
Northern Cardinal
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Indigo Bunting
Chipping Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
House Finch

Species showing decline

Upland Sandpiper
Northern Flicker
Horned Lark
Hermit Thrush
Brown Thrasher
Rufous-sided Towhee
Field Sparrow
Vesper Sparrow
Savannah Sparrow
Grasshopper Sparrow
Henslow's Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Red-winged Blackbird
Eastern Meadowlark
Brown-headed Cowbird
American Goldfinch

The decline can be seen in another way. Where three species which were formerly among the "12 most abundant" namely, Savannah Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, and American Goldfinch, are no longer on the list. They have been replaced by Rock Dove, Mourning Dove and Yellow Warbler.

4923 Creek Road, Lewiston, NY

TABLE I

Summary 1984 Fish & Wildlife Cooperative
Breeding Bird Survey in Western N.Y.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% Rtes</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% Rtes</u>
Gr. Blue Heron* H	24	47	Gr. Cr. Flycatcher* N+	39	76
Green-backed Heron* N-	15	65	Eastern Kingbird* H-	85	94
Canada Goose H	7	18	Horned Lark* N-	42	41
Wood Duck H-	5	12	Purple Martin* N-	42	24
Mallard* L	20	65	Tree Swallow* L+	23	47
Turkey Vulture N+	4	18	Nor. Rough-w. Swallow* N-	6	18
Nor. Harrier N+	1	6	Bank Swallow* H-	146	29
Cooper's Hawk H-	1	6	Cliff Swallow N-	6	6
Red-sh. Hawk* H	8	12	Barn Swallow* N+	503	100
Broad-w. Hawk H	4	18	Blue Jay* H	165	100
Red-t. Hawk* H-	13	24	American Crow* N	690	100
American Kestrel* N	17	71	Bl.-c. Chickadee* H	118	94
Ring-n. Pheasant* L	99	65	Tufted Titmouse H-	1	6
Wild Turkey N	2	12	Red-br. Nuthatch H-	3	12
Sora H+	2	12	Wh.-br. Nuthatch* N-	8	35
Killdeer* N	165	100	House Wren* N-	153	100
Spotted Sandpiper* N-	5	12	Winter Wren H+	3	6
Common Snipe N	2	6	Golden-cr. Kinglet N+	3	6
Amer. Woodcock H	2	12	Eastern Bluebird* N+	12	24
Ring-billed Gull H	353	24	Veery* L-	37	47
Rock Dove* H	444	100	Hermit Thrush N+	3	18
Mourning Dove* H	452	100	Wood Thrush* N-	142	100
Black-b. Cuckoo* L+	7	18	American Robin* N	1401	100
Yellow-b. Cuckoo N+	3	18	Gray Catbird* N	194	100
Gr. Horned Owl H+	6	12	Nor. Mockingbird H	3	12
Barred Owl N	1	6	Brown Thrasher* N-	17	59
Chimney Swift* N	43	71	Cedar Waxwing* N	92	88
Ruby-th. Hummingbird* N+	5	29	European Starling* N+	2627	100
Belted Kingfisher* H+	13	47	Solitary Vireo* N	2	6
Red-h. Woodpecker* L	1	6	Yellow-thr. Vireo* N	3	12
Red-b. Woodpecker H+	9	18	Warbling Vireo* H+	72	82
Yellow-b. Sapsucker H+	9	12	Red-eyed Vireo* N-	143	88
Downy Woodpecker* H	41	71	Blue-w. Warbler* H-	24	35
Hairy Woodpecker* N	5	24	Nashville Warbler N+	2	6
Northern Flicker* L-	22	65	Yellow Warbler* H	410	100
Pileated Woodpecker* N+	2	6	Chestnut-s. Warbler* N-	16	41
E. Wood-Pewee* L+	38	71	Magnolia Warbler N	5	12
Acadian Flycatcher H	1	6	Bl.-thr. Green Warbler* L+	12	18
Alder Flycatcher* H	20	35	Blackburn. Warbler* N	6	24
Willow Flycatcher* H-	69	94	Amer. Redstart* H+	38	59
Least Flycatcher* N	55	76	Ovenbird* H	45	53
Eastern Phoebe* N	31	76	Nor. Waterthrush H-	1	6

TABLE I
(Continued)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% Rtes</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% Rtes</u>
Lousiana Waterthrush H	1	6	Henslow's Sparrow N-	4	18
Mourning Warbler* L	6	24	Song Sparrow* L-	841	100
Common Yellowthroat* H+	279	100	Swamp Sparrow* H	25	35
Hooded Warbler N	2	12	Wh.-thr. Sparrow H+	4	12
Canada Warbler* N	4	12	Dark-eyed Junco H	21	24
Scarlet Tanager* N	29	65	Bobolink* H+	498	100
Nor. Cardinal* H	130	100	Red-w. Blackbird* L-	2041	100
Rose-br. Grosbeak* N+	64	71	E. Meadowlark* L-	185	100
Indigo Bunting* H-	173	88	Common Grackle* L-	1148	100
Rufous-s. Towhee* L	51	71	Brown-h. Cowbird* L	99	82
Chipping Sparrow* H	381	100	Northern Oriole* N+	138	100
Field Sparrow* L+	121	88	Purple Finch* N+	18	53
Vesper Sparrow* N	22	29	House Finch H	54	82
Savannah Sparrow* L-	317	94	Amer. Goldfinch* N-	393	100
Grasshopper Sparrow L	2	12	House Sparrow* N-	1072	100

"FROM FARTHER AFIELD"

Reviews of Spring, 1984 Newsletters from Birding
Groups with which the B.O.S. Exchanges Publications

by: Marian Dornhaffer

Cleveland Bird Calendar

Large numbers of Great Blue Herons, up to 63 on April 29, gathered on the far east runway of Burke Airport, attracted perhaps by the dead fish being exposed by late-melting lake ice.

The area found an unexplained diminishing in the number of Bonaparte's Gulls and a tremendous increase in the sighting of Forster's Terns for a total of 131, a record 324 Caspian Terns on April 23. A singing Bell's Vireo, the first record for the Cleveland area, is thought to be expanding its range eastward. For one day in May, a male Smith's Longspur in summer plumage remained at Gordon Park. It was last recorded in the Cleveland area in April 1959.

"From Farther Afield" cont.

Jamestown Audubon

Further indication of the spread of western species was the sighting in March of 7 Brewers Blackbirds -- 5 males, 2 females -- and a Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco at a feeder until April 8. An immature Northern Gannet observed by Fran Rew, was the fourth on record in Chautauqua County, a Sandhill Crane on April 28 was the third, and a Yellow-headed Blackbird only the second ever seen there.

Further sightings included a Boreal Chickadee at a feeder and an all-yellow Evening Grosbeak. In these instances the carotenoid (yellow) pigments are there, but the melanin (brown and black) pigments are lacking. Birds normally synthesize melanine; the inability to do so may be inherited or developmental, according to the writer.

Allegany County Bird Club

Spring records include an American Robin, 90% white on back, with a red breast, as well as 68 Wild Turkeys, 15 Red-bellied Woodpeckers, 585 Evening Grosbeaks and 351 House Finches.

Wren's Ramblings -- Lake Erie Bird Club

"Birding Hot Spots" compiled by Lois Buck for the May issue is very helpful, while Birds of Chautauqua County, written by Bob Sundell, offers a complete description of places to go birding in that area.

The Goshawk -- Genesee Ornithological Society

Braddock Bay reported the biggest one day flight ever to have been counted in the area on April 27, with 21,191 raptors, 19,879 of which were broadwings. The last five days of April also broke the record high 44,690. On April 30, with a wind velocity of 40-67 mph, sharp-shins averaged 506 per hour or 8.5 per minute for the four peak hours from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. (L.W. and N.S. Moon).

Unusual sightings included an Eared Grebe, Black Vulture, Lark Sparrow, Western Meadowlark and a Sandhill Crane.

Little Gull -- Rochester Birding Association

Weather conditions like those described by GOS brought record numbers of broadwings and a strong wind in late April brought a number of western species including Willets and a Wilson's Phalarope.

W.D. Symonds called attention to Canada Geese with yellow neck bands. Persons sighting any of the 30,000 geese to be banded by 1988 should report to the N.Y. Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, Fernow Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca 14853. Include name, address, phone number of observer, calendar date and time, location of sighting (town, county, state), size of flock and habitat the birds were in.

"From Farther Afield" cont.

Little Gull cont.

A hawk banding report by Clay Taylor had some interesting observations based on the capture of 218 hawks comprising seven species. In comparing sharp-shin hawks, spring birds weighed more than the mostly immature and still-learning fall migrants. Cooper's hawks also showed the same weight pattern. Within these two species, the adult females migrate first, then the adult males, followed by the immature females and finally the immature males. In spring banding, the majority of hawks were captured between 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. In the fall, the push was from 8 - 11 a.m. before it dropped off sharply. Other observations are bringing new information on migration patterns.

NEW MEMBERS

A hardy welcome is extended to our new Associate Members!

Bruce L. Chilton
88 Pryor Avenue
Tonawanda, NY 14150
Tel.

Ray Markiewicz
9622 Point Breeze Dr.
Angola, NY 14006
Tel. 549-1977

Thomas P. Connare
456 Auburn Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14213
Tel. 884-3562

Rev. Raymond A. Prybis
348 Porter Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14201
Tel. 835-3767, 3768

Thomas Dibble
8305 Stahley Road
East Amherst, NY 14051
Tel. 741-3412

David Suggs
4816 N. Harlem Road
Snyder, NY 14226
Tel. 839-5004

Donald Endres
1859 Roberts Road
Basom, NY 14013
Tel. 948-5142

...and to our new Active Members (advanced from Associate Membership), Betsy Potter and William D'Anna.

* * * * *

NOTES

Color-marked Common Terns: Request for Information

The Canadian Wildlife Service, Ontario Region, is continuing its program of color-marking Common Terns at two colonies in the lower Great Lakes to determine their post-breeding dispersal, migration routes and winter range.

In 1981 adults were marked with orange wing-tags and chicks with pink tags. Tags were put on both wings of all birds. All tags had combinations of letters and numbers (the two tags on any bird each had the same combination). In addition, all birds received a metal legband on one leg and a plastic legband (yellow with a black horizontal stripe) on the other leg.

In 1982 many of the adult tagged birds returned to their colonies still carrying their tags. The tagged birds appeared fit and nested normally. Most tags were still clearly legible and showed little wear. In 1982 bright blue wing tags (with black lettering) were put on adult Common Terns and black tags (with yellow lettering) on chicks just prior to fledging.

In 1983 many terns tagged in 1981 and 1982 were back at their colonies. In that year red wing tags (with yellow lettering) were put on adult Common Terns and green tags (with yellow lettering) on chicks.

In 1984 several terns tagged as adults in previous years were back at the nesting colonies. In addition, a few immatures tagged in 1981 returned to nest as adults. In 1984 white tags (with a red trim and red lettering) were put on adult Common Terns and yellow tags (with black lettering) on chicks.

When you observe a tagged tern would you please report the date, location, color of the tag, and, if possible, the number/letter combination to: BANDING OFFICE, CANADIAN WILDLIFE SERVICE, HEADQUARTERS, OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA K1A 0E7. All reports will be acknowledged.

* * * * *

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

December 12th: Fifth Year Summary of NYS Breeding Bird Atlas Project. Bob Andrie and Bob Brock will continue their fine job of reporting the results of Atlas work this fifth and, supposedly, final year of the effort. New findings and possible future work will be covered.

Note: Any christmas refreshments would be welcome.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman, (885-0474; Buffalo, N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

- November 18th: Niagara River joint trip with the GOS. Meet at Old Fort Niagara at 9:30 a.m. Leaders: Dick Byron 892-9496; Bob Spahn (GOS) 671-5690.
- December 2nd: Niagara River. Meet at Peace Bridge, corner of Vermont and Busti, at 8:00 a.m. or at 8:15 at first parking lot south in Fort Erie. Leader: Dr. Harold A. Axtell 1-416-871-6999.
- December 16th: Christmas Bird Count.

For further information about field trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairman (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.
(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, New York 14304.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Shirley Wake (typing).

Editorial Board: Marian Dornhaffer, Bradley Lown,
Julia Wells

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
819 Auburn Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

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THE PROTHONOTARY

ALBERT R. MANN
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PUBLISHED MONTHLY

DEC 2 1984

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 50

OCTOBER 1984

NUMBER 10

THE MONTH

September was cloudy and cool with above average precipitation. Heavy thunderstorms on September 2nd, 13th and 25th preceded significant cold fronts. A record low temperature of 40° (F) for the date at Buffalo was set in the early morning hours of September 6th. The average temperature for the month was 58.5° (F), 3.5 degrees below normal and rainfall totaled 3.73 inches for the month, .33 inches above average. Winds with peak gusts of 47 m.p.h. accompanied a weak cold front on September 20th. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

A review of the bird records for September makes it difficult for the writer to correlate an influx of migrants with the passage of cold fronts this year. September was a uniformly excellent month for bird migration on the Niagara Frontier with most observers finding migrants in abundance even on the mildest days in the flattest weather patterns. For example, Terry Mosher's records of flocks of Water Pipits estimated at 100 birds each on September 18th and 28th in a plowed field on Farel Road in the Town of Pomfret in Chautauqua County or Esther Becker's report of 100 Yellow-rumped Warblers at Sinking Ponds in the Town of Aurora on the 23rd. However, the classic movement of large numbers of migrants in the wake of a cold front in autumn was again demonstrated by the raptor flight at Port Stanley in Elgin County, Ontario in September. As noted in these pages each year, many local bird-watchers make the annual trek to Hawk Cliff, a promontory on the shore of Lake Erie east of Port Stanley which large numbers of Broad-winged Hawks and other raptors fly over in their autumn passage from the forests of Quebec and Northern Ontario. The flight predictably follows the first significant cold front in September. This year, five days of warm, cloudy weather in the northeast ended with heavy thunderstorms on September 13th as a cold front approached from the west. In the wake of the front, the winds shifted to the northwest and the temperature dropped some 15 degrees by the early morning hours of the 14th. Frances Rew and several other local

bird-watchers arrived at Port Stanley in the rain on September 13th and were present at Hawk Cliff when the flight began the following morning. On September 14th, Rew tallied 10,322 raptors of eight species including two Golden Eagles, 13 Ospreys and 9,272 Broad-winged Hawks. As the front deepened, on the 15th she counted ten species of raptors including two Bald Eagles, 12 Ospreys, two adult Northern Goshawks, six Cooper's Hawks, almost 600 Sharp-shinned Hawks and 16,350 Broad-winged Hawks. Further west on the Lake Erie shore at Holiday Beach Provincial Park near Amherstburg in Essex County, Ontario, over 95,000 raptors, mostly Broad-winged Hawks, were counted on September 15th!

Nearer home, the ornithological event of the month also involved a hawk. Late in the afternoon of September 19th, Bruce Duncan of Caledonia, Ontario was driving on the Downey Road along the east boundary of Rock Point Provincial Park when he saw a large hawk on the road some distance in front of his car. As he drove closer and reduced his speed, Duncan at first thought this large buteo to be a Red-tailed Hawk but he was puzzled by the 'dark markings' on the bird's chest. He then noticed the pale brown unmarked throat and brown mottled streaks across the buffy chest. Closer scrutiny of this hawk both perched and in flight revealed that while it was the approximate size of a Red-tail, it was slimmer of body with longer wings and tail. The head was buff-colored and streaked with darker brown; a buffy line above the eye and a brown "moustache line" down the sides of the throat and neck were also noted. Duncan now realized that he was looking at an immature light phase Swainson's Hawk! Coincidentally, during the preceding winter he had studied all of the skins of this species at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto in preparation for a trip to Colorado this summer to acquaint himself with the bird in the field. In Colorado, he saw some 50 immature and 30 adult Swainson's Hawks, all but one of which were typical light phase birds. Duncan thought it ironic that after eight years of banding hawks during their autumn passage at Hawk Cliff at Port Stanley and six years similarly employed at the lookout at Vinemount, Ontario, his first glimpse of this western vagrant in the province should be in the Niagara Peninsula, far to the east of its anticipated occurrence although there is a sight record at Hamilton and a specimen was collected at Toronto. It is the first record for the B.O.S. study area. Bruce Duncan notified Alan Smith of St. Catharines of his find and Mr. Smith kindly contacted Art Schaffner who alerted local bird-watchers. The hawk remained at the park for five more days during which time it was seen by a host of Canadian and American observers. It was remarkably tame and was closely seen both perched on fence posts and hopping about in the short grass of the field adjacent to the park road unromantically searching for and eating grasshoppers, a most unlikely kind of prey for so large a raptor but a regular item of diet for this species.

As noted, on September 20th a weak cold front passing through the Niagara Frontier precipitated southwesterly winds with gusts up to 47 m.p.h. Bob Andrie and Dick Byron recalled a similar meteorological situation on September 10th, 1981 during which a number of unusual pelagic species were blown into the Niagara River from Lake Erie. They drove to the foot of Porter Avenue in Buffalo where, with a commanding view of the Niagara River both above and below the Peace Bridge, they identified an immature Sabine's Gull and an adult and an immature Little Gull among the scores of Bonaparte's and other gulls flying in from the lake. An adult Parasitic Jaeger was also seen. All three species were also tallied at that location during a gale in September, 1981.

There was so much migration activity in our study area in September that it is difficult not to write in superlatives of the month. The writer and his son accompanied Bob Andrie on field trips along the north shore of Lake Erie on September 5th and September 12th. On the 5th, the bushes and trees at Rock Point Provincial Park and Morgan's Point, Ontario were literally alive with warblers and other passerine migrants. We counted 19 species of warblers and three species of vireos on that date. On the 12th, with the passerine flight somewhat diminished, we still found 17 species of warblers and three species of vireos. It was also pleasant to have an immature Bald Eagle, a second-year Glaucous Gull, a Great Horned Owl, and a Cooper's Hawk to divert us at Rock Point Provincial Park on that date.

Among the many interesting records received in September were reports of a flock of Double-crested Cormorants on Mohawk Island in Lake Erie near Rock Point which fluctuated in numbers between 22 to 32 birds during the month. An adult Mute Swan was seen throughout the month at both the north and south Buffalo Harbors and at Times Beach. Two very early Tundra Swans were reported by Pam McNeil in the company of 45 Canada Geese at Winter's Pond in the Town of Langford on September 22nd. Flocks of migrating ducks and other waterfowl appeared in the Niagara River, Lake Erie and the wetlands east of Buffalo by mid-month. Fifty Gadwall were reported in the marsh at Sour Springs Road in the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on the 18th while 350 American Wigeon were seen on Ring-neck Marsh on the refuge on September 28th. Fifteen Surf Scoters were reported at Rock Point Provincial Park on September 27th. There were several records of migrating Ospreys in the area this month. Vivian Pitzrick saw Ospreys at Amity Lake in Allegany County on four days between September 3rd and the 30th; Paul Hess reported one at Buckhorn Island State Park on September 30th. Among shorebirds seen during the month was a Red-necked Phalarope reported by Don Endres at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on September 2nd. It was the only phalarope record received by the compiler for September although there were unconfirmed reports of Wilson's Phalaropes, one at the sewage ponds at Smithville, Ontario and one at the Cannery Ponds at St. David's, Ontario. In any case, phalarope sightings are well below average in numbers for the migration to date. There were no records of Buff-breasted Sandpipers at the Merion Sod farms at Stromness, Ontario or in the Town of Clarence although Lesser Golden Plovers were seen in good numbers at these locations. Cultivation of the sod at Stromness has been considerably reduced this year. There were no records of migrant Dunlins in the fall migration until September 23rd when Bob Andrie reported two birds at Rock Point Provincial Park.

Bonaparte's Gulls were present on the Niagara River and Lake Erie in good numbers all month with records of Little Gulls on the increase for the first time in two years. As noted, a second year Glaucous Gull was at Rock Point Provincial Park on September 12th and another second-year bird of this species was seen by Mike Turisk and others at Waverly Beach in the Town of Fort Erie on September 9th, possibly the same gull observed there on August 22nd. The Greater Black-backed Gull continues to increase in numbers in our study area and on September 30th, Mike Turisk and Mike Zebehazy counted 103 at Dunkirk Harbor.

The only Whip-poor-will record for 1984 was one migrant seen by Frances Rew and Lois Buck in the Town of Charlotte in Chautauqua County on September 22nd.

Elizabeth Brooks writes of three House Wren nestlings still in the nest box in the Town of Alfred in Allegany County on September 1st, seven days later than the last date given in Bull's Birds of New York State (1974).

On September 8th, Kenneth Balmas and James Valente were bird-watching in the Plumbottom State Forest area of the Town of Amity in Allegany County when Valente noticed two large corvids flying over a mixed deciduous woods. The birds were "mobbed" by several crows as they flew, allowing the observers to note their larger size, comparatively slow wingbeats and wedge-shaped tails. Closer examination also showed the bills of the birds to be larger in proportion to head size than those of the pursuing crows. These morphological characters and the guttural croaks uttered by the birds in flight identified them as Common Ravens. Vivian Pitzrick reports that Helen Graves of Shongo in the Town of Willing in Allegany County also saw two Common Ravens flying over that hamlet on September 17th.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

* * * * *

SEPTEMBER NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate than an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

D. Crest. Cormorant	Sept.	12	32 Mohawk Is., Ont.	Andrle, Thills
"	"	30	8 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
American Bittern	"	9	1 Tiffit Farm N.P.	Turisk, Souden
Great Egret	"	2-30	2-11 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	3	1 Port Maitland, Ont.	Andrle et al
Bl. Cr. Night Heron	"	3	4 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	4,15,29	10,11,1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
"	"	23	5 Times Beach, Bflo.	BOS (D'Anna)
<u>Mute Swan</u>	"	23	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	BOS (D'Anna)
Green-w. Teal	"	30 F	20 Town of Machias	Baird et al
Northern Pintail	"	2	4 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	23 F	7 Smithville, Ont.	Andrle et al
Gadwall	"	4 F	4 Dunkirk	Mosher
American Wigeon	"	3 F	6 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
Ring-necked Duck	"	29 F	4 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
Greater Scaup	"	23 F	8 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
"	"	30	32 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter

Lesser Scaup	Sept.	3 F	1 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
	"	22	2 Buffalo	Turisk, Souden
Osprey	"	3,18,19,30	1,1,1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	30	1 Buckhorn Is. St. Pk.	Hess
Bald Eagle	"	12	1 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle, Thills
	"	(immature)		
	"	16	2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	3	1 Boston	Hess
	"	12	2 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle, Thills
Cooper's Hawk	"	6	1 Hamburg	Turisk
	"	15	1 Hamburg	McNeil
	"	23	1 E. Aurora	Becker
	"	23	1 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
*Swainson's Hawk	"	19	1 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Duncan
	"	23	1 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
Lesser Golden Plover	"	3,23	1,18 Moulton Twp., Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	5	3 Moulton Twp., Ont.	Andrle, Thills
	"	5	1 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle, Thills
	"	12,19,21	2,1,1 Fredonia	Mosher
	"	16	7 Clarence	McKale
	"	18	4 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	29	18 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
Red Knot	"	14	4 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Rew, Walker
W.-rump. Sandpiper	"	12	1 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle, Thills
	"	14	1 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Rew, Walker
Dunlin	"	23	2 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
Short-b. Dowitcher	"	9	5 Smithville, Ont.	Turisk et al
	"	14	5 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Rew, Walker
*Red-necked Phalarope	"	2 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
*Parasitic Jaeger	"	20	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
Franklin's Gull	"	23	1 Buffalo	Andrle, Gregory
	"	29	1 Buffalo	Turisk, Souden
Little Gull	"	9,29	1,1 Buffalo	Turisk, Souden
	"	20	2 Buffalo	Andrle, Byron
	"	23	1 La Salle Pk., Bflo.	BOS (D'Anna)
	"	30	2 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
Glaucous Gull	"	12	1 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle, Thills
*Sabine's Gull	"	20	1 Buffalo	Andrle, Byron
Caspian Tern	"	15 L	10 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Sanden
Forster's Tern	"	5	1 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle, Thills
	"	30	1 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
Common Nighthawk	"	22	81 Hamburg	McNeil
	"	22	9 Buffalo	Hess
*Whip-poor-will	"	22	1 Town of Charlotte	Rew, Buck
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	"	1-24	1-3 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzricks
	"	19	1 Wales	O. Rosche
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	16	4 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	30	1 Dunkirk	Turisk, Zebehazy
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	9,16	1,1 Tonawanda Ind. Res.	Endres

Yellow-b. Sapsucker	Sept.	21 F	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
"	"	21 F	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	23	3 Tifft Farm N.P.	BOS (D'Anna)
Olive-s. Flycatcher	"	4 F	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Yellow-b. Flycatcher	"	4 F	1 Ft. Niagara St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	4 F	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
Gr. Cr. Flycatcher	"	20 L	1 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
Common Raven	"	8	2 Town of Amity	Balmas, Valente
Tufted Titmouse	"	16,17	1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	26-28	4 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	13-15	1 Orchard Park	O'Dell
Brown Creeper	"	20 F,23	1,2 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	21	1 Salamanca	Baird
House Wren	"	1	3 Alfred	Brooks
(young in nest - very late)				
Winter Wren	"	22 F	5 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	23 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	23 F,29	2,1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	27	5 Buffalo	O'Dell
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	"	19 F,25	2,1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	23	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-30	1-22 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	8	1 Alabama	Endres
"	"	16	5 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	23	3 E. Aurora	Becker
"	"	30	1 Salamanca	Baird
Gray-cheeked Thrush	"	16 F	1 Alfred	Brooks
Swainson's Thrush	"	2	1 Alfred	Brooks
Water Pipit	"	10 F	10 Clarence	McKale
"	"	14,18,28	2,100,100 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	30	1 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	30	75 Cassadaga	Rew, Buck
Solitary Vireo	"	12 F	1 Morgan's Pt., Ont.	Andrle, Thills
Yellow-thr. Vireo	"	9 L	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Warbling Vireo	"	22 L	1 Ft. Niagara St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
Philadelphia Vireo	"	5	2 Morgan's Pt., Ont.	Andrle, Thills
"	"	15	1 Ft. Niagara St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	18	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	25	1 Fredonia	Mosher, Chilton
"	"	26	1 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
Blue-winged Warbler	"	1,11 L	1,1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Northern Parula	"	22 F	1 Ft. Niagara St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
Tennessee Warbler	"	15	1 Hamburg	Turisk
Orange-cr. Warbler	"	29 F	1 Town of Pomfre-	Mosher
"	"	30	1 Town of Machias	Baird et al
Nashville Warbler	"	16	4 Alfred	Brooks
Cape May Warbler	"	29	1 Alfred	Brooks
Bl.-thr. Blue Warbler	"	15	1 Hamburg	Turisk
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	1	40 Alfred	Brooks

Bl.-thr. Gr. Warbler	Sept.	15 F	2 Hamburg	Turisk, Souden
"	"	19	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Blackburnian Warbler	"	15	1 Hamburg	Turisk
Pine Warbler	"	2 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	9	3 Tonawanda Ind. Res.	Endres
"	"	19	1 Alfred	Brooks
Palm Warbler	"	15 F	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
"	"	30	7 Town of Machias	Baird et al
Blackpoll Warbler	"	9	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	Turisk
Northern Waterthrush	"	8	1 Hamburg	Turisk, Souden
Mourning Warbler	"	30	4 Hamburg	McNeil
Hooded Warbler	"	8	2 Salamanca	Baird
Canada Warbler	"	6	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Indigo Bunting	"	25 L	1 Salamanca	Baird
Lincoln's Sparrow	"	18 F	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	22	1 Ft. Niagara St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	"	21 F	2 Eggertsville	McKale
"	"	22	50 Ft. Niagara St. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	22-30	3-10 Wales	O. Rosche
Wh.-cr. Sparrow	"	30 F	1 Town of Machias	Baird et al
"	"	30 F	1 Hamburg	Turisk, Souden
Rusty Blackbird	"	30 F	10 Town of Machias	Baird et al

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.	256
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue.	<u>5</u>
Total for year	261

ERRATUM

Prothonotary, vol. 50:7, page 110:

Eastern Bluebird	June	1-30	86 Town of Amity (40 pairs and 46 fledglings)	Pitzrick
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-- should be:

Eastern Bluebird	June	1-30	86 Town of Amity (<u>20</u> pairs and 46 fledglings)	Pitzrick
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ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

Canadian Shore; Joint Trip With G.O.S.

August 26, 1984

On Sunday, August 26, we met 10 members of the Genesee Ornithological Society for a joint trip up the Canadian Shore of Lake Erie. Fifteen members of our Society turned out on a beautiful and rewarding day. At the meeting place in Fort Erie we had Black Terns, Common Terns and large flocks of Purple Martins preparing for their southward flight. At Jaeger Rocks there were no young Martins still in the nest as there were the week before. There we saw only 10 Lesser Yellowlegs, so we decided to go right to Rock Point Provincial Park.

As we stopped to regroup after the entrance to the Park, we ran into a flock of Warblers fletting all over in the trees. We saw 7 species: Magnolia, Black & White, Redstart, Blackburnian, Bay-breasted, Blackpoll and Chestnut-sided, and it was lots of fun trying to pin them down long enough to identify them.

We ate lunch at the picnic area, and went down to the beach from there, which was much easier than the steep bank we usually go down. Most of the birds were on the point, and allowed a close approach. There were about 100 shorebirds of 12 species. Of note were 3 White-rumped Sandpipers, 1 Golden Plover and 10 Short-billed Dowitchers. Least Sandpipers in neat immature plumage came very close; they seemed to trust us more than the larger birds. There was an immature Forster's Tern who kept chasing one Lesser Yellowlegs around and around.

At the Marion Sod Farm north of Lowbanks, we found 45 Black-bellied Plover and 5 Golden Plover. From there we continued on to the Smithville sewage lagoons, where we had about 100 shorebirds. New for our list were 3 Stilt Sandpipers and also there were Green-winged Teal.

We had to explain to the leader from Rochester that St. David's wasn't open on Sunday. She was hoping to stop there. Perhaps their enthusiasm made it such a great day. Back at the Peace Bridge traffic was backed up so far that some of us were checking the river again when Dr. Andrie spotted 4 Red Knots flying by. So our day ended with a total of 55 species, 15 of them shorebirds.

Esther Becker, Leader

* * * * *

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

December 12th: Fifth Year Summary of NYS Breeding Bird Atlas Project. Bob Andrie and Bob Brock will continue their fine job of reporting the results of Atlas work this fifth and, supposedly, final year of the effort. New findings and possible future work will be covered.

Note: Any Christmas refreshments would be welcome.

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

December 16th: Christmas Bird Count. Compiler: Dick Christensen (632-7762).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, New York 14304.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES:

Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

\$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Shirley Wake (typing).

Editorial Board: Marian Dornhaffer, Bradley Lown,
Julia Wells

EDITOR:

Robert A. Klips
819 Auburn Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222

(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

ALBERT R. MANN
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FEB 26 1985

THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 50

NOVEMBER 1984

NUMBER 11

THE MONTH

October was a warm, sunny and dry month leaving area residents with memories of the most pleasant Indian Summer in recent years. Aside from a day of brisk high winds on the 3rd (about which, more below) and a record low temperature of 28° (F) on October 6th when the first hard frost of the season was recorded, 'Blue Bird Weather' prevailed for the rest of the month. High temperatures of 74° (F) were recorded at Buffalo on the 17th and the 27th and thermometer readings exceeding 70° (F) on three other days in October were also posted. The average temperature for the month was 53.4° (F), 1.9° above the norm. Precipitation measured only .87 inches, 2.6 inches below average. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Once again this month, the focus of excitement among area bird-watchers was the Niagara Peninsula of Southern Ontario. On October 1st and again on the 4th, a bird identified as a female Broad-tailed Hummingbird was observed visiting blossoms of jewelweed (*Impatiens* sp.) in a yard on Bedford Park Drive in the Town of Grimsby. At this writing no information is available locally as to whether identification of this hummingbird has been confirmed by field observers or photographs or if the observation has been accepted by the Ontario Records Committee. If so, it would be the first record of this western species east of the Mississippi River. Ironically, the site of the observations was only 1/10 of a mile west of the geographic boundary of the B.O.S. study area in the Niagara Peninsula!

On October 3rd, gusty southwest winds and a falling barometer sent Bob Andrie and Dick Byron hurrying to the foot of Porter Avenue in Buffalo with its commanding view of the Niagara River. They were in hope of repeating their success of September 20th in seeing interesting pelagic birds blown into the river from Lake Erie by the gale. Once again they were rewarded with the sight of an immature

Sabine's Gull (possibly the same bird seen in September?) as well as an immature Franklin's Gull, three Little Gulls and a late Cliff Swallow which was flying low over the turbulent waters of the Niagara River below the Peace Bridge.

The unusually mild weather in October was reflected by the number of migrant species lingering beyond their usual departure dates. On the Society's annual bird count on October 14th, Mike Zebehazy saw a Yellow-throated Vireo at Times Beach on the Buffalo waterfront while Elva Hawken reported a Philadelphia Vireo on Raymond Road in the Town of Bethany in Genesee County on that date. Also, on the count, Frances Rew and Lois Buck observed three very late Bobolinks in a pasture near Port Colborne, Ontario. A late Stilt Sandpiper was reported at the sewage lagoons at Smithville, Ontario on October 9th. Gail and Dolores Seamans reported a late Black Tern in a small flock of Common Terns at Niagara Falls on October 28th.

Among the interesting birds seen on the October Bird Count were nine Ospreys and an adult male Merlin; the Merlin was observed at Rock Point Provincial Park by Art Schaffner and David and Debbie Suggs. Individual Ospreys were also seen in October at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, in the City of Salamanca in Cattaraugus County and in Allegany County.

Once again this year, Ward Klepfer witnessed an interesting fall 'mini-migration' of hawks along the north shore of Lake Erie in October. On the 12th, Klepfer counted 96 migrating hawks over Thunder Bay Road in the Town of Fort Erie, all moving towards Buffalo on a brisk northeast wind. The flight was witnessed between 10:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and included 67 Sharp-shinned Hawks, three Cooper's Hawks and 19 Red-tails. On the 15th, under similar meteorological conditions between 11:00 a.m. and 1:45 p.m., he counted 30 hawks including 14 Sharp-shinned, one Cooper's and 13 Red-tailed Hawks.

Other records of interest received in October include the first Red-throated Loon of the fall migration reported on the 21st by Don Endres on Lake Ontario at Lakeside Beach State Park in the Town of Carlton in Orleans County. Endres also reported up to five Great Egrets seen on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge between October 1st and 26th. A lone Tundra Swan was seen on that refuge by several observers during the B.O.S. field trip on the 21st. On October 11th, a Canada Goose of the 'small' race Branta canadensis hutchinsii, also known as Richardson's Goose or Hutchins Goose was allegedly shot by a hunter on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge but verification is lacking. On October 21st, an immature Bald Eagle with a yellow identification tag on its left wing was seen by members of the B.O.S. field trip on that date. This bird and a second immature eagle, was reported by several observers during the month. Also on the 21st, "at least 36 Turkey Vultures" were reported on the refuge.

On October 13th, Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter were walking through a deciduous woods on the Lake Ontario Shore in Fort Niagara State Park in Niagara County when their attention was attracted to a Saw-whet Owl perched on a horizontal limb in the canopy of a 30 foot oak tree. The owl was being mobbed by a flock of Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets and their scolding attracted the observers to the scene.

Finally, the first Snow Bunting of the season was seen by Bruce Chilton at Dunkirk Harbor on October 30th. A reminder of the colder weather to come.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY 14217

* * * * *

OCTOBER NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Red-throated Loon	Oct.	21 F	1 Lakeside Beach S.P.	Endres
Horned Grebe	"	27 F	3 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna et al
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	7,27	1,1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna et al
American Bittern	"	27	1 Iroquois NWR	Heyer et al
Great Egret	"	1,7,8,10,26	4,3,5,5,1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Bl.-cr. Night Heron	"	21	1 Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
Tundra Swan	"	20 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Chilton
	"	21	1 Iroquois NWR	McKale et al
Canada Goose	"	2	722 over Amity Lake	Pitzrick
		(13 flocks)		
Amer. Black Duck	"	21	5 Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
Northern Pintail	"	21	6 Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
Northern Shoveler	"	21	5 Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
Gadwall	"	21	5 Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
Canvasback	"	20	4 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
Redhead	"	1 F	7 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Ring-necked Duck	"	17	12 Langford	O'Dell
	"	21	16 Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
	"	27	24 Iroquois NWR	Heyer et al
	"	31	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Common Goldeneye	"	27	5 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna et al
Bufflehead	"	27	5 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna et al
	"	29	2 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Hooded Merganser	"	21	50 Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
Common Merganser	"	18	50+ Allegany River	Baird
Ruddy Duck	"	10F,19,26,28	1,1,15,1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	18	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	21	50 Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)

Turkey Vulture	Oct.	21	130 over Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
			(100 in one kettle)	
Osprey	"	2,8,11	1,1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	6	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	21 L	2 Salamanca	Baird
Bald Eagle	"	21	2 Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
			(both immatures-one had yellow tag on left wing)	
Northern Harrier	"	12	5 over Thunder Bay, Ont.	Klepfer
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	10	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	12,15	67,14 over Thunder Bay, Ont.	Klepfer
	"	14,19	1,1 Salamanca	Baird
Cooper's Hawk	"	2	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	7	1 Allegany S.P.	Baird
	"	12,15	3,1 over Thunder Bay, Ont.	Kelpfer
Red-should. Hawk	"	7,12	1,1 Allegany S.P.	Baird
	"	12	2 over Thunder Bay, Ont.	Klepfer
Black-bell. Plover	"	7	5 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	21	5 Tonawanda WMA	Christensen (BOS)
	"	27	2 Tonawanda WMA	Heyer et al
Lesser Golden Plover	"	16	2 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Greater Yellowlegs	"	21	4 Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
	"	27	3 Iroquois NWR	Heyer et al
Lesser Yellowlegs	"	21	2 Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
	"	26	2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	27	2 Iroquois NWR	Heyer et al
Red Knot	"	28	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Axtell
Pectoral Sandpiper	"	21	2 Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
	"	27	12 Iroquois NWR	Heyer et al
Dunlin	"	7-26	3-22 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	21	17 Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
	"	26,31	32,41 Thunder Bay, Ont.	Klepfer
	"	27	31 Iroquois NWR	Heyer et al
Common Snipe	"	16	3 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	21	3 Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
	"	31	3 E. Aurora	Becker
Amer. Woodcock	"	13,18,25	1,1,1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Little Gull	"	28	3 Niagara Falls	G. & D. Seamans
Sabine's Gull	"	3	1 Foot of Porter Ave.	Andrle et al
			Buffalo	
Black Tern	"	27	4 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna et al
	"	28	1 Niagara Falls	G. & D. Seamans
Long-eared Owl	"	13	2 Town of Amity	Balmas
N. Saw-whet Owl	"	13 F	1 Ft. Niagara S.P.	D'Anna, Potter
Chimney Swift	"	7 L	40 Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	27	3 Batavia	G. & D. Seamans
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	19,26	3,1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
E. Wood Pewee	"	1	1 Buffalo	O'Dell
Yellow-b. Flycatcher	"	2 L	1 Buffalo	O'Dell
Eastern Phoebe	"	11	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Cliff Swallow	"	3 L	1 Peace Bridge Ave.	Andrle, Byron

Tufted Titmouse	Oct.	1-31	4 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
"	"	7	2-4 Ft. Niagara S.P.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	11,12,16,28	3,2,1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	17	1 Eden	O'Dell
Winter Wren	"	1	1 Eggertsville	McKale
"	"	18	1 Town of Pomfret	Moshers
"	"	23	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-31	5-16 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	20	9 Town of Amity	Balmas
"	"	21	4 Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
Gray-ch. Thrush	"	19 L	1 Eggertsville	McKale
Hermit Thrush	"	5 F	1 Eggertsville	McKale
"	"	6	12 Dunkirk	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	11,15,29	1,1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Water Pipit	"	16	150 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	21	12 Town of Newstead	Christensen (BOS)
Solitary Vireo	"	7	2 Allegany S.P.	Baird
Tennessee Warbler	"	18 L	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Chestnut-s. Warbler	"	7	1 Ft. Niagara S.P.	D'Anna, Potter
Magnolia Warbler	"	2	1 Salamanca	Baird
Cape May Warbler	"	9	1 Salamanca	Baird
Bl.-thr. Bl. Warbler	"	7	1 Ft. Niagara S.P.	D'Anna, Potter
Pine Warbler	"	9	1 Dunkirk	Mosher
Blackpoll Warbler	"	7	1 Allegany S.P.	Baird
Scarlet Tanager	"	9 L	1 W. Seneca	O'Dell
Rose-br. Grosbeak	"	2 L	1 Buffalo	O'Dell
Rufous-s. Towhee	"	1-29	1-10 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	7	2 Salamanca	Baird
Amer. Tree Sparrow	"	30 F	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	31	1 Wales (f)	O. Rosche
Wh.-cr. Sparrow	"	2	4 Buffalo	O'Dell
Snow Bunting	"	31 F	30 Dunkirk Harbor	Chilton
Rusty Blackbird	"	7	25 E. Aurora	Becker
"	"	21	20 Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded. 263

Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue. .(on.Fall Count). 1

Total for year 264

* * * * *

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

FALL BIRD COUNT

October 14, 1984

Compiler: B. Walker

Weather: A heavy fog lay over the lake and western New York until early afternoon. As the day progressed the sun warmed and the temperature rose from 48° (F) to 68° (F). Wind was very light, 5 mph from the NNE.

Compilation: Following is a list of species recorded on the count and total numbers of each. Figures in parentheses indicate section numbers where species were recorded in 3 or fewer sections. Underlined common names indicate that acceptable written verifications were required and accepted. * - Indicates first record for year; F - Indicates first record for the migration; L - Indicates last record for the migration.

Loons - Waterfowl

Common Loon F - 6 (1,9,21)
Pied-billed Grebe - 44
Horned Grebe - 10
Great Blue Heron - 46
Green-backed Heron - 16 (1,20)
Mute Swan - 2 (11,14)
Snow Goose - 1 (4)
Canada Goose - 4676
Wood Duck - 195
Green-winged Teal - 16 (1,11,23)
American Black Duck - 172
Mallard - 2299
Northern Pintail - 23
Blue-winged Teal - 50
Northern Shoveler - 4 (5,6)
Gadwall - 13 (9,23)

American Wigeon - 505
Canvasback F - 5 (5)
Redhead F - 1 (11)
Ring-necked Duck - 5 (2,14,23)
Greater Scaup - 1143 (3,5,7)
Lesser Scaup - 967
Oldsquaw - 1 (2)
*Surf Scoter - 14 (5,7)
White-winged Scoter - 153 (4,5)
Common Goldeneye F - 10 (11)
Bufflehead F - 5 (1,27)
Hooded Merganser - 5 (5)
Common Merganser F - 35
Red-breasted Merganser - 34 (5,8)
Ruddy Duck - 63

Vultures - Rails

Turkey Vulture - 75
Osprey - 9
Northern Harrier - 23
Sharp-shinned Hawk - 14
Cooper's Hawk - 10
Red-shouldered Hawk - 4 (22,24,26)
Red-tailed Hawk - 138
American Kestrel - 95

Merlin - 1 (6)
Ring-necked Pheasant - 57
Ruffed Grouse - 39
Wild Turkey - 29
Virginia Rail - 2 (11,23)
Sora - 2 (22,23)
Common Moorhen - 3 (10,11)
American Coot - 249

Fall Bird Count cont.

Shorebirds

Black-bellied Plover - 14
Lesser Golden Plover - 14 (7,10,20)
Semipalmated Plover - 5 (6)
Killdeer - 845
Greater Yellowlegs - 25
Lesser Yellowlegs - 20
Solitary Sandpiper - 4 (13)
Spotted Sandpiper - 8 (8,13)
Red Knot - 2 (6)

Sanderling - 26
Semipalmated Sandpiper - 31 (1,6)
Least Sandpiper - 4 (6,13)
Wh.-rumped Sandpiper - 1 (6)
Pectoral Sandpiper - 24
Dunlin - 82
Common Snipe - 702
American Woodcock - 17

Gulls - Woodpeckers

Little Gull - 1 (3)
Bonaparte's Gull - 1177
Ring-billed Gull - 11350
Herring Gull - 1175
Great Bl.-backed Gull - 124
Common Tern - 485
Rock Dove - 2853
Mourning Dove - 1469
Eastern Screech-Owl - 4
Great Horned Owl - 22

Barred Owl - 2 (22,28)
Long-eared Owl - 2 (28)
Belted Kingfisher - 64
Red-headed Woodpecker - 8
Red-bellied Woodpecker - 14
Yel.-bellied Sapsucker - 2 (8,28)
Downy Woodpecker - 280
Hairy Woodpecker - 51
Northern Flicker - 149
Pileated Woodpecker - 15

Tyrant Flycatchers - Thrushes

Eastern Wood Pewee L - 1 (2)
Eastern Phoebe - 16
Horned Lark - 144
Purple Martin - 1 (9)
Tree Swallow - 6
No. Rough-wing. Swallow - 3 (1)
Blue Jay - 2234
American Crow - 2581
Bl.-capped Chickadee - 1395
Tufted Titmouse - 10
Red-br. Nuthatch - 22
White-br. Nuthatch - 227
Brown Creeper - 40

Carolina Wren - 1 (21)
House Wren - 6 (3,13,20)
Winter Wren - 9
Marsh Wren - 3 (20)
Golden-cr. Kinglet - 236
Ruby-cr. Kinglet - 212
Eastern Bluebird - 140
Gray-cheeked Thrush - 2 (3,13)
Swainson's Thrush - 25
Hermit Thrush - 51
Wood Thrush - 9
American Robin - 3996

Fall Bird Count cont.

Mimids - Wood Warblers

Gray Catbird - 32
Northern Mockingbird - 15
Brown Thrasher - 2 (13,28)
Water Pipit - 160
Cedar Waxwing - 1350
European Starling - 34555
Solitary Vireo - 9
Yellow-throated Vireo - 1 (11)
Philadelphia Vireo - 1 (13)
Red-eyed Vireo - 4 (13,14)
Tennessee Warbler - 2 (13,20)
Orange-crowned Warbler L - 1 (5)
Nashville Warbler - 3 (11,14,15)

Chestnut-sided Warbler L - 3 (13,20)
Magnolia Warbler L - 10
Cape May Warbler L - 8
Bl.-throat. Blue Warbler F - 4 (6,20)
Yellow-rumped Warbler - 1169
Bl.-throat. Green Warbler L - 7
Blackburnian Warbler L - 2
Palm Warbler L - 5
Bay-breasted Warbler L - 7 (6,8,20)
Bl. & wh. Warbler L - 2 (13,20)
American Redstart L - 5 (13,20)
Common Yellowthroat - 19

Tanagers - Weaver Finch

Northern Cardinal - 325
Rufous-sided Towhee - 38
American Tree Sparrow - 7
Chipping Sparrow - 323
Field Sparrow - 160
Vesper Sparrow - 33
Savannah Sparrow - 53
Fox Sparrow - 11
Song Sparrow - 1295
Lincoln's Sparrow - 3 (3,13)
Swamp Sparrow - 65
Wh.-throated Sparrow - 1561
Wh.-crowned Sparrow - 499

Dark-eyed Junco - 666
Bobolink - 3 (8)
Red-winged Blackbird - 15421
Eastern Meadowlark - 166
Rusty Blackbird - 226
Common Grackle - 3307
Brown-headed Cowbird - 2039
Purple Finch - 41
House Finch - 1417
American Goldfinch - 1562
Evening Grosbeak - 1 (5)
House Sparrow - 4459

Total Species 159

Total Individuals 114,799

Comments: This was a record year for the Common Snipe - 702! The Downy Woodpecker numbered 280, Common Yellowthroat 191 and the House Finch 1417. Savannah, Chipping, Field, White-crowned, Swamp and Song Sparrows were out in good numbers. The Osprey, Horned Lark, Blue Jay, Starling and "yellowrumps" are also on the increase. Bluebirds continue to make a good comeback from 66 in 1970 to 140 in 1984.

The Yellow-throated Vireo makes its first appearance this year. The Philadelphia Vireo is the first seen here since 1970 and the Bobolinks are the first since 1968. Merlin continue to be seen.

Fall Bird Count cont.

Sections and Observers

My thanks is given to the section compilers and observers who continue to be supportive of our efforts to compile these records. It is their enthusiasm that makes these counts a success.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. Fonthill, Ont. | <u>Gary Novosel</u> , Chas. Allen. |
| 2. Thorold, Ont. | <u>Robert Sommerville</u> , Audrey Barnsley, Frank Barnsley,
Nel Dekker, Mary Ellen Foley. |
| 3. Wilson, N.Y. | <u>Harriette & Walter Klabunde</u> , William Broderick,
Charles Dishaw, Ernest J. Dishaw, Jim Moreland,
Tim O'Day, Leonard Pepkowitz, Susan Tavano. |
| 4. Middleport, N.Y. | <u>Bob Brock</u> , Bruck Chilton. |
| 5. Oak Orchard, N.Y. | <u>Dick & Peg Christensen</u> , Bill Burch, Bill Townsend,
Ruth Kuhfahl, Marion Smith, Charlotte Pratt, Mark
McNally. |
| 6. Port Maitland, Ont. | <u>Ed Williams</u> . |
| 7. Lowbanks, Ont. | <u>Art Schaffner</u> , David & Debbie Suggs. |
| 8. Fort Erie, Ont. | <u>Fran Rew</u> , Lois Buck, Marc Chelemer. |
| 9. Grand Island, N.Y. | <u>Karen Renning</u> , Marg Wright, Jack Wright, Ed Crohn,
Mary Ann Stegmeier. |
| 10. Akron, N.Y. | <u>Robert Wagner</u> , Willie D'Anna, Betsy Potter. |
| 11. Buffalo, N.Y. | <u>Mike Zebehazy</u> , Alan Kraft, Bob & Pauline Schwartz,
Joe Thill. |
| 12. Lancaster, N.Y. | <u>Marie Wendling</u> , Anne Bauer, Alan Baczkiewicz, Dorothy
& Fred Danner, Tom Harper, Cy Wolfling. |
| 13. Batavia, N.Y. | <u>Max & Jane Mason</u> , David Keller, Elva Hawken, George
Mahoney, Robert & Eileen Hull, Don Thurau, Dave
Whitcomb. |

Fall Bird Count cont.

14. Hamburg, N.Y. Marian Dornhoffer, Erma Kern, Barbara Walker, Lois Abbott, Phyl Hansen, Peter & Lois Matlock, Jack & Audrey Zegebath, Ed O'Reilly, Dave & Janice Bigelow, Thelma Pickett, Barbara Howard, Bob & Lucille Leonard, Pam McNeill, Mike Turish, Vivian Souden. Feeders: Dorothy Barber, Jane Harder, Agnes Orfeo, Mrs. Hunley, Mrs. Bacon, Betty & Baldwin Smith, Clarence & Mary Herbst, Eileen & Bob Mauser, Mary Saville, Jane Skrypik, Mary Brady.
15. Java, N.Y. Bill Bogacki, Esther Becker, Olga Rosche.
16. Angola, N.Y. Paul Hess.
17. Cattaraugus, N.Y. Wavel & Maxine Barber, Audrey Horbett, Carolyn Frank, Rae Uhl.
18. Delevan, N.Y. Don & Jane Clark, William & Doris Vaughan.
19. Fillmore, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Katherine Palmer, Dennis Dorsey, Donald Goodsell, Eric Goodsell, Bradley Reynolds, Dean Scholes, Mr. & Mrs. Howard Lang, Faye Clancy, Harland Hale, Ron Andrews, Gen Fish, Josephine Main, Helen Morse, Judy O'Banks, Vesta Rice, Marian & Emmette Smith, K. Boon, Vic Carpenter, Alice Evans, Mildred Fero, Mr. & Mrs. M. Spencer, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Wilson, Larry Wilson, Bette Hill, Robyn McMaster, Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Williams.
20. Dunkirk, N.Y. Lake Erie Bird Club, Terry Mosher, Nancy Bowser, Sylvia Clarke, Jeanine Flory, Joanne Goetz, Joe Gula, Greg Harper, Theresa Highley, Morgan Jones, Terry Mahoney, Jerry Mathewson, Judy Mosher, Lucille Neveu, Bob Rand, Beverly Ruska, Marty Sanden, Audrey Schafer, Tom Welch, Tom Welch, Jr.
21. Cherry Creek, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Elizabeth Calahane, Daniel Cordosi, David Dister, Jennie Freeman, David Gagne, Carol Roby.
22. Sherman, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Daniel Cordosi, David Dister, David Gagne, Linda & William O'Brien.
23. Frewsburg, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Daniel Cordosi, David Dister, David Gagne, Julie Heilman, Stephen Maggio, Christopher Maggio, William McCool, Joanne Nelson, Jean Pigman, Mary Shaul, Thomas Simmons, Sr., Thomas Simmons, Jr., Susan Suckow.

Fall Bird Count cont.

24. Allegany, N.Y. (S.P.) Cattaraugus County Bird Club, Tim Baird, Robert Andrews.
25. Allegany, N.Y. Cattaraugus County Bird Club, Tim Baird, Dorothy Baker, Lucielle Bordonaro, Margaret & Charles Green, Regina, James & Meredith VanScoy.
26. Cuba, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Lou Burton, Mary Jordan, Ann Scott, Betty & John Comoton.
27. Bolivar, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Ruth Brown, Harold Babcock, Helen Link, Norman Ives, Helen Apsey, Frances DeGroff, Doris Hurlburt, Emma King, Eillian & Stella Simons, Annie Smith.
28. Alfred, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Larry Chapman, Lavinia Creighton, Ann Eisenhardt, Terry & Tim Finlay, Eva Ford, Peter Fradoni, Clarence Klingensmith (co-compiler), Ellen Lamb, Cathy MacDonald, Ann & Robert Pipal, Russell Allen, Charlotte Anderson, Dorothy Bayless, Fred Bayless, Esther Biehl, Don, Lorna & Tara Brink, Vivian Brownell, Jim Copenheaver, Martha DeLaVergne, Jay & Louise Gibson, Fay & Ben Heller, Viola Ide, Ed & Marjorie Mason, Linn Phelan, Allen & Gladys Witter, Harold R. Ward, Roy Yarnell, Mallory & Mary Adams, Kenneth Balmas, Doris & Lou Burton, Raymond Pitzrick, James Valente, Vivian Pitzrick (co-compiler), Judson Browning, Roberta Clark, Dale & Evelyn Coats, Paul & Mary Alice Fuller, Claribel James, Ernest & Lynn Rositzke, Bernadean Stein, Mrs. Ira Brown, Mr. & Mrs. Carl Burdick, Mr. & Mrs. Carlton Coats, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Cronauer, Christine Ferrand, Mrs. Jack Frank, Mrs. Helen Graves, Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Lang, Mrs. Erma Larson (co-compiler), David & Ona Reynolds, Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Taggart, Mr. & Mrs. William Thompson.

51 Berkshire Road
Hamburg, NY 14075

UPDATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

A hearty *Welcome* to the following New Members:

Dr. Neil Moon - Corresponding Member
25 Edgewater Lane
Rochester, NY 14617

Terry Mosher - Corresponding Member
8892 Harmon Hill Road
Fredonia, NY 14063

Mrs. David M. Bigelow (Janice) - Associate Member
9795 Larkin Road
Eden, NY 14057 Tel. 337-2518

Ellen Schopp - Associate Member
177 Brighton Road
Tonawanda, NY 14150 Tel. 877-3686

Address Changes:

K. S. Balmas
R.D. 1, Plum Bottom Rd.
Belmont, NY 14813
Tel. 268-5643

Mrs. Gordon Batcheller
286 Sinn Road
Cowlesville, NY 14037

Richard Byron
64 Orchard Terrace
Orchard Park, NY 14127
Tel. 662-4783

Douglas Happ
32 Standish Road
Buffalo, NY 14216

Fred Harrington
1205 B University Village
E. Lansing, MI 48823

Joan C. Jezierski
125 S. Dobson Rd., #2105
Chandler, AZ 85224

Merle Malone
385 Richmond Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222

Mrs. James O. Moore
2600 Skyline Dr., #1
Tucson, AZ 85718

Barbara R. Thomasi
64 Orchard Terrace
Orchard Park, NY 14127
Tel. 662-4783

Jeff Zehr
1933 Strong's Ave., #2
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Update Your Membership Roster cont.

Two corrections:

Paul & Linda Grimble's address should be 3100 Condren Road

William & Doris Vaughan's telephone number should be 284-8799.

Alan J. Smith's telephone number is (416) 682-5019.

Change in Membership:

Mrs. Flora J. Elderkin from Associate to Corresponding Member.

Mr. Max Mason from Associate to Corresponding Member.

Mr. Wayne K. Gall from Associate to Active Member

* * * * *

UP FROM THE EGG: THE CONFESSIONS OF A NUTHATCH AVOIDER

by Ogden Nash

Birdwatchers top my honour list.
I aimed to be one but I missed.
Since I'm both myopic and astigmatic
My aim turned out to be erratic,
And I, bespectacled and binocular,
Exposed myself to comment jocular.
We don't need too much birdlore, do we,
To tell a flamingo from a towhee;
Yet I cannot and never will,
Unless the silly birds stand still.
And there's no enlightenment so obscure
As ornithological literature.
Is yon strange creature a common chickadee,
Or a migrant allouette from Picardy?
You rush to consult your nature guide
And inspect the gallery inside,
But a bird in the open never looks
Like its picture in the birdie books ---
Or if it once did, it has changed its plumage,
And plunges you back into ignorant gloomage.
That is why I sit here growing old by inches,
Watching the clock instead of finches,
But I sometimes visualize in my gin
The Audubon that I audubin.

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

- January 23rd: Reports on October and Christmas Counts.
- February 13th: Dick Christensen on winter birds.
- February 27th: Clark's Nutcracker - An ornithological quiz using specimens from the BMS Department of Vertebrate Zoology, presented by the Assistant Curator, Arthur Clark.
- March 13th: HMANA Hawk Migration Film. (date tentative)
- March 27th: Bob Klips. External Anatomy of Birds. General characteristics of plumage, topography, and special features sometimes used for determining a birds age or sex.

For further information, contact Barbara Walker, Program Committee Chairman, (649-1242; Hamburg, N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

These trips take most of the day so a lunch should be brought.

- February 3rd: Gulls and ducks at Old Fort Niagara. Leader: Bob Brock (876-5862). Meet at Old Fort Niagara parking lot at 9:30 a.m.
- February 17th: Canadian Owl Trip. Leader: Blayne Farnan. We will meet Wavel and Maxine Barber (683-3061) at Vermont St. & Busti Ave., near the Peace Bridge, at 8:00 a.m. or in Fort Erie at the first parking lot south (upriver) of the Peace Bridge on River Road at 8:15 a.m.
- March 3rd: Ontario Plains for winter birds. Meet at Tops market in Lewiston at 8:30 a.m. Tops is across from Lewiston exit on Route 104. Leaders: Harriette and Walter Klabunde (754-4424, Lewiston).

March 31st: Iroquois - Oak Orchard for ducks and geese. Leader: Bill Burch (773-3690). Meet at 8:00 a.m. in front of Citibank, Transitown Plaza (southeast corner of Main and Transit), or meet at 10:15 a.m. at Cayuga Pool Overlook.

For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690; Grand Island, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, New York 14304.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Bruce Duncan, Shirley Wake (typing).
Editorial Board: Marian Dornhaffer, Bradley Lown, Julia Wells.

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
819 Auburn Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

671
P96
V. 50
#12
1984



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N. Y. 14850
NOV 2 1985

VOLUME 50

DECEMBER 1984

NUMBER 12

THE MONTH

Temperatures in November were seasonal with no major weather disturbances. Precipitation, both in the form of rain and snow, totaled only 2.66 inches at Buffalo, .96 inches below normal for the period. The first measurable snow of the season did not occur until November 6th when heavy flurries in the uplands south of Buffalo left a trace on the ground. The first significant snowfall, up to five inches in the "snowbelt" in the Southern Tier came with heavy squalls on the 16th. While flurries were a daily occurrence during the following week, there was no significant accumulation of snow and the temperatures from November 23rd through the 28th were unseasonably warm with a record high reading of 66° (F) at Buffalo on the latter date. The average temperature for the month was 39° (F), 1.3° below normal for the period. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

The generally pleasant meteorological conditions in November made it a rather unusual month for bird-watchers. Because of the warm and sunny weather in October, lingering migrants, including a late Red Knot and a Nashville Warbler seen on the B.O.S. trip along the north shore of Lake Erie on the 4th, were in evidence during the first two weeks of the period. Conversely, there was no evidence whatever of even a moderate influx of wintering raptors with only one record of a Rough-legged Hawk received by the compiler; winter finches were virtually nonexistent. For the first time in this writer's memory there were no reports of Evening Grosbeaks in our study area in November. White-winged Gulls were also noticeably fewer at Niagara Falls and other gathering places during the month.

The most interesting record of the month was the report of a Sandhill Crane in flight over Beth Pond on the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve in Buffalo on November 10th. It was seen by Paul Schnizler who at first mistook the bird for

a Great Blue Heron as it approached the preserve, flying north to south. However, upon observing the straight neck and cruciform configuration of the crane in flight, he realized his error. Schnizler was unfortunately unable to discern any diagnostic coloration on this greyish crane to identify it with certainty as a Sandhill to the satisfaction of the Society's statisticians and no official record has been entered in the archives.

Common Loons were reported from all of the large bodies of water in our study area in November, most of them individual birds with a maximum count of three in the river gorge below Niagara Falls reported by Don Endres on the 25th. A Red-throated Loon in partial breeding plumage was observed in Lake Ontario off of Fort Niagara State Park by Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter on November 17th. A Double-crested Cormorant was also seen at that location at the time. On November 1st, Terry and Judy Mosher saw an immature Cattle Egret foraging for insects in the wake of the meanderings of a herd of 25 Holstein cows in a pasture on the Fredonia-Stockton Road in the Town of Pomfret in Chautauqua County. The first significant flight of Tundra Swans this autumn was reported by Terry Mosher and Richard Miga on November 10th when they saw a flock of 117 birds on Chautauqua Lake at Mayville. On the 25th, Frances Rew saw 322 swans at that location but, as noted, weather patterns in November did not lend themselves to a repeat of the spectacular flights of this species of one year ago. The adult Mute Swan, which apparently has become a permanent resident of the Buffalo waterfront, continued to be seen during November with most observations at the North Harbor or the Black Rock Canal entrance near LaSalle Park. On November 15th and again on the 19th, Grace O'Dell saw an immature male King Eider among the wintering scaup ducks in the South Harbor at Buffalo where it remained almost until the end of the month. Immature female King Eiders were reported on the Niagara River in November. Two were seen at the Peace Bridge on the 24th by Dave Freeland and a group of Allegheny County (PA) bird-watchers he had brought to the area for a weekend of duck and gull watching on the Niagara River. On the following day, Bob Andrie and his party sighted an immature female King Eider above the water control breakwall on the river south of Victoria Park in Niagara Falls, Ontario. This was also the location of a large flock of Canvasback ducks estimated to number as many as 3000 birds during the last two weeks of the month. A male adult Eurasian Wigeon was reported from a pond on the Sour Springs Road on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on November 6th but no formal record was received by the compiler.

Two Purple Sandpipers and two Dunlin were seen all month in November among the rocks in the upper rapids of the Niagara River at Niagara Falls, Ontario.

In spite of the paucity of white-winged gull records, November was an interesting month on the Niagara River for the gull watching fraternity. The presence of such pelagic larids as Black-legged Kittiwake and Sabine's Gull among the thousands of Bonaparte's Gulls between Fort Erie and Niagara-on-the-Lake, as well as rare annual visitors including Lesser Black-backed Gull and Common Black-headed Gull, proved an irresistible attraction. Fortunately for its reputation as one of the best locations to see variety and numbers of gulls in Northeastern North America, the weekend of November 24-25 was a banner one at Niagara Falls. On that weekend, with many B.O.S. members on impromptu field trips and Dave Freeland's Pittsburgh bird-watchers weekend excursion as well as numerous Canadian observers

in attendance, 13 gull species were seen! Including one unverified report from Niagara-on-the-Lake on November 4th, at least three immature Sabine's Gulls were on the Niagara River in November. Dave Freeland reported two in the gorge below the Canadian Falls on November 24th and one at that location on the following day. Mike Turisk and Mike Zebehazy saw an immature Sabine's Gull in the upper rapids opposite Dufferin Island at Niagara Falls, Ontario on the 23rd where it was seen again by Bob Andrie and others on the 25th. The first Black-legged Kittiwakes of the season were reported on November 11th when Andrie saw two immature birds at the overlook at the Adam Beck Generating Station at Niagara Falls, Ontario. One hour earlier, Willie D'Anna saw an immature kittiwake at the mouth of the Niagara River off of Fort Niagara State Park. An immature kittiwake was subsequently seen by several observers at the mouth of the river between Fort Niagara and Niagara-on-the-Lake on several occasions by month's end. As noted in these pages last month, Little Gulls are more common this season than for the past several years. Most observations have been made while scanning the large flocks of Bonaparte's Gulls flying up and down the Niagara River in their endless quest for the cyprinid fishes of several species that school in the swift flowing waters in the autumn and provide an attractive source of food for gulls. The most productive location in November was the sand dock at Queenston where up to six Little Gulls were seen among the Bonaparte's flying there. It was also the scene of the discovery of an adult Common Black-headed Gull in winter plumage by Bob Andrie on November 11th. It is interesting to relate that the May-June 1984 issue of American Birds (vol. 38:3) contains a note describing the first verified nesting of this species on the North American continent. On June 27th, 1982 four pairs of Common Black-headed Gulls with two flightless chicks were observed at a lagoon in the Madeline Islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence in the Province of Quebec and on July 14th of that year, ten adults, three newly fledged young and two chicks were seen. It is speculated that the presence of this small colony is part of the range expansion in the Northern Hemisphere this gull has demonstrated in the past decade. Since the first nesting Little Gulls were discovered at Oshawa, Ontario in 1962, this species has established breeding populations in Michigan, Wisconsin, Quebec and Manitoba and those birds seen on the lower Great Lakes and further south each winter are no longer considered accidental vagrants from the Palearctic region. It now appears that the Lesser Black-backed Gull of the Western European race, Larus fuscus graellsii, is a regular winter visitor in small numbers to eastern North America, probably from a breeding population in Greenland. Only one Lesser Black-backed Gull, an adult seen at the Adam Beck Generating Station overlook on November 23rd and 24th, was reported for the month.

Finally, the first Snowy Owl of the season was seen on the Buffalo waterfront by Willie D'Anna on November 23rd.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY 14217

* * * * *

NOVEMBER NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Red-throated Loon	Nov.	17	1 Fort Niagara S.P.	D'Anna, Potter
Common Loon	"	10	1 Barcelona	Mosher, Miga
	"	11	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	11	1 Niagara-on-the-Lake	Andrle et al
	"	24	2 Cassadaga Lake	Moshers
	"	25	3 Niagara Falls	Endres
Horned Grebe	"	5,7	1,1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
D.-cr. Cormorant	"	10	3 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Miga
	"	17	1 Fort Niagara S.P.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	24	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Freeland et al
Cattle Egret	"	1	1 Town of Pomfret	Moshers
Tundra Swan	"	10	117 Mayville	Mosher, Miga
	"	23	295 Mayville	Rew
	"	23	14 Prendergast Pt.	Rew
	"	25	322 Mayville	Rew
Mute Swan	"	11,25	1,1 LaSalle Pk., Bflo.	Andrle et al
Canada Goose	"	12	13 over Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	22	75 Rushford	Barbers
	"	24	80 over Darien Center	Harper
Green-w. Teal	"	24	1 Cassadaga Lake	Moshers
Northern Shoveler	"	21	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers
Ring-necked Duck	"	24,25	1,1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Freeland et al
King Eider	"	15 F,19	1,1 Buffalo Harbor	O'Dell
	"	24	2 Fort Erie, Ont.	Freeland et al
	"	25	1 Buffalo Harbor	Andrle
	"	25	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al
Oldsquaw	"	4	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Rew (BOS)
	"	15	25 Fort Erie, Ont.	D'Anna, Chilton
*Black Scoter	"	3 F	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	4	6 Pt. Abino, Ont.	Rew (BOS)
	"	18	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	G. & D. Seamans
	"	23	2 Mayville	Rew
	"	29	2 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Chilton
Surf Scoter	"	4	12 Pt. Abino, Ont.	Rew (BOS)
	"	18	3 Niagara Falls, Ont.	G. & D. Seamans
	"	29	2 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Chilton

White-w. Scoter	Nov.	3	3	Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	4	2	Pt. Abino, Ont.	Rew (BOS)
"	"	18	4	Niagara Falls, Ont.	G. & D. Seamans
Common Goldeneye	"	4	6	Fort Erie, Ont.	Rew (BOS)
Hooded Merganser	"	2,20	25,61	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	10	50	Town of Chautauqua	Mosher, Miga
"	"	23	168	Mayville	Rew
Ruddy Duck	"	2-19	2	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	23	9	Hartfield	Rew
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	16	1	Wales	O. Rosche
"	"	24	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Freeland et al
Cooper's Hawk	"	2	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	6,30	1,1	Wales	O. Rosche
Red-should. Hawk	"	25 L	1	Grand Island	Freeland
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	2 F	1	Town of Charlotte	Rew
Black-bell. Plover	"	4 L	6	Jaeger Rocks, Ont.	Rew (BOS)
Killdeer	"	25	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Freeland et al
Lesser Yellowlegs	"	2-7 L	3-8	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Red Knot	"	4 L	1	Jaeger Rocks, Ont.	Rew (BOS)
Sanderling	"	4 L	2	Jaeger Rocks, Ont.	Rew (BOS)
*Purple Sandpiper	"	25 F	2	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle, G. & D.
					Seamans et al
Dunlin	"	2-11	3-16	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	4	4	Thunder Bay, Ont.	Rew (BOS)
Common Snipe	"	2,7,11 L	7,1,1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Franklin's Gull	"	11,25	1,1	Queenston, Ont.	Andrle et al
"	"	18	1	Niagara Falls	D'Anna (BOS-GOS)
"	"	21	1	Niagara Falls	Chilton
Little Gull	"	7	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Chilton
"	"	11,23	1,1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al
"	"	11,23,26	2,5,6	Queenston, Ont.	Andrle et al
"	"	18	5	Queenston, Ont.	D'Anna (BOS-GOS)
"	"	18,25	1,2	Queenston, Ont.	G. & D. Seamans
"	"	23,25	1,1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle et al
"	"	24	3	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Freeland et al
"	"	25	2	Lewiston	Endres
"	"	25	5	Queenston, Ont.	Freeland et al
C. Bl.-headed Gull	"	11	1	Queenston, Ont.	Andrle et al
Iceland Gull	"	24 F	1	Adam Beck Hydro	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	24 F,25	1,2	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Freeland et al
"	"	25	2	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al
"	"	29	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Chilton
*Lesser Bl.-b. Gull	"	23 F	1	Adam Beck Hydro	Andrle et al
"	"	24	1	Adam Beck Hydro	D'Anna et al
Glaucous Gull	"	18	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna (BOS-GOS)
*Bl.-legged Kittiwake	"	11 F	2	Adam Beck Hydro	Andrle et al
"	"	11 F	1	Fort Niagara S.P.	D'Anna
"	"	23	1	Niagara-on-the-Lake	Turisk, Zebehazy
"	"	24	1	Adam Beck Hydro	Freeland, D'Anna
					et al
"	"	25	2	Queenston, Ont.	Andrle et al

<u>Sabine's Gull</u>	Nov.	23	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Turisk, Zebehazy
	"	24,25	2,1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Freeland et al
	"	25	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al
Common Tern	"	25	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Endres
Forster's Tern	"	4	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	D'Anna (BOS)
	"	7 L	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	O'Dell
Snowy Owl	"	23 F	1 Buffalo	D'Anna
Belted Kingfisher	"	19	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	25	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Endres
	"	25	1 Wales	O. Rosche
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	10	1 Town of Chautauqua	Mosher, Miga
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	"	4 L	4 Fort Erie, Ont.	Rew (BOS)
Hermit Thrush	"	5	1 W. Seneca	O'Dell
N. Mockingbird	"	4	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Rew (BOS)
	"	18	1 Youngstown	Harper
Northern Shrike	"	22 F	1 Phillips Creek	Barbers
	"	25	1 Town of Porter	Freeland et al
Nashville Warbler	"	4 L	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	D'Anna (BOS)
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	27	1 Tiffit Farm N.P.	O'Dell
Chipping Sparrow	"	4 L	1 Waverly Beach, Ont.	Rew (BOS)
Snow Bunting	"	10	12-15 Town of Portland	Mosher, Miga
	"	18	150+ Youngstown	D'Anna (BOS-GOS)
	"	25	22 Cassadaga	Rew
Rusty Blackbird	"	4	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Rew (BOS)
Purple Finch	"	5-25	1-3 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Red Crossbill	"	18 F	3 Youngstown	Harper
Pine Siskin	"	24 F	10 Fort Erie, Ont.	Freeland et al

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded. 264

Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this issue. 5

Total for year 269

* * * * *

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

NESTING RECORDS -- 1984 (Part I)

Vivian Mills Pitzrick

(Editor's Note: As part of a "nest finding competition" between herself and another indefatigable nest-finder, Elizabeth Brooks, Vivian Pitzrick has compiled a tabulation of essential facts about many of her discoveries. They are included here in essentially unedited form. The listing contains a wealth of valuable natural history information about the birds, and from it one can derive nest-finding strategies and habitat clues which will be useful in "atlasing" or similar endeavors.)

Nesting Records cont.

Unless otherwise specified, nests were mostly at Lat. $42^{\circ}13'$, Long. $77^{\circ}59'$, 5 miles north of Scio, NY, Allegany County, documented in connection with Nest-Record Card Program, Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850.

Ver = Verification accepted by Buffalo Ornithological Society

NEI = Nest empty, intact

NED = Nest empty, damaged

Great Blue Heron - 2 mi E of Cuba, Lat. $42^{\circ}12'$, Long. $78^{\circ}12'$, El. 2160 ft., deciduous woods, Oak-Beech, in Oaks c. 45 ft. up. 23 Apr. 9 Ad on 8 n., egg laying (?). 21 nests, total. Leaves obscured colony on future visits. Colony observed from highway using 20-power scope.

Cooper's Hawk¹ - Hood Hill, El. 1900 ft., Oak-Maple deciduous woods, in White Oak, 40 ft. up. 9 Apr., 16 May, 2, 5, 26 June Ad "kek"ing near. 26 June 1 downy yg in n. Sometimes fresh green leaves on n. 1 July N apparently empty, damaged. Can see no yg. No ad. No droppings below. Fresh bark damage on tree, apparently by raccoon. (Tree unsheathed this year.)

Cooper's Hawk² - Cooley Hill, e. of last yr's n. 3 mi N of Scio, Lat. $42^{\circ}13'$, Long. $77^{\circ}58'$, El. 2200 ft., mixed woods, Oak-Spruce, in White Oak 50 ft. up. 14 Apr. Freshly broken twigs below n. Ad. near. 7 May Fresh pine bough on n. 17 May More fresh conifer branches on n. 25 June, 12 July No activity, no droppings below. Apparently failure. (Tree unsheathed.)

Red-shouldered Hawk¹ - Same location as Cooper's Hawk² above. El. 2220 ft. in Red Oak 40 ft. up. 14, 27 Apr. freshly broken twigs below n., Ad. near crying. 7 May Fresh spruce boughs on n. 17 May, 25 June, 13 July No activity, no droppings below. N. must have been robbed. (Tree unsheathed.)

Red-shouldered Hawk² - Vandermark SF, 6 mi NE of Scio, Lat. $42^{\circ}14'$, Long. $77^{\circ}54'$, El. 2250 ft. Beech-Oak-Spruce woods, in Tamarack 50 ft. up. 27 Apr. N. freshly repaired. Ad. at site. No further activity on subsequent visits. No droppings below. N. probably robbed.

Broad-winged Hawk¹ - Cooley Hill, same location as Cooper's Hawk² above. El. 2170 ft. on old Red-shouldered Hawk n. in Red Oak 30 ft. up. 17 May Ad. on, 2nd Ad. near, both quiet. Fresh spruce twigs on n. 25 June droppings below n. 13 July 2 large, well-feathered yg. still in n. Many droppings below. Ad. very agitated. 20 July NEI, Ad. beside n. Wilted White Oak leaves on n. Lots of whitewash below. (Tree unsheathed.)

Broad-winged Hawk² - Vandermark SF, same area as Red-shouldered Hawk² above. El. 2250 ft. in Sugar Maple 40 ft. up. 19 May Ad. on, silent. Leaves on twigs in n. 2 June No activity. 25 June nest has blown down.

Nesting Records cont.

- Broad-winged Hawk³ - Withey, 2 mi E of Belkont, Lat. 42°14', Long. 77°59' in Beech-Scotch Pine-Oak woods, in Black Cherry 55 ft. up. 21 May Ad. went to n. No further activity.
- Broad-winged Hawk⁴ - Saunders Pond, west. 6 mi N of Scio. El. 1880 ft. in Oak-Maple-Hickory-Hemlock woods, in Red Oak 55 ft. up. 25 May Ads. mating near new n. -- quite bulky; one Ad. ate huge night crawler (or small snake?). 22 June Ad. on n. 30 June, 21 July Ad. by n., crying. No whitewash below. 28 July Ad. near n. (flew over n.), no whitewash below; fresh maple leaf on twig in n. (in an oak tree). 7 Aug. No activity, no droppings below. Were eggs infertile?
- Red-tailed Hawk - Hood Hill (Windfall Flats, N side). El. 1980 ft. Oak-Hemlock-White Pine woods, in Red Oak 55 ft. up. 28 Apr. Fresh pine boughs on n. Ads. flew down into n. area after I left. 16 May No activity. No further visits.
- Killdeer - (First Nesting) in home garden in grassey lawn area, grass and weeping willow, on bare ground inside fence of small garden. El. 1670 ft. 19 Apr. 2 eggs, 21 Apr. 3 e Ad. on, 22,29 Apr., 9,16 May 4 e, Ad. on. 17 May 1 tiny yg. still in n. at 12:08 p.m. EDT. 6 p.m. NEI.
- Killdeer - (Second Nesting) same n. as above. 28 May 1 e. 30 May 2 e. Ad. near. 3 June 3 e. No Ads., 6 June No Ads. 7 June 2 e. No Ads., n. deserted. Owners spending too much time in garden spot.
- Rock Dove¹ - Three nestings, same silo; Wesche's; Plumbottom; 3.5 mi N of Scio, Lat. 42°12', Long. 78°00', El. 1450 ft., fallow field-grass, burdock, on ledge inside silo on silo wall, 11 ft. up. 2 nestings produced 2 yg. each. 1 n. lost to predation
- Rock Dove² - Wadsworth Hill, Wesche's barn, 3.5 mi NE of Scio, Lat. 42°13', Long. 77°56', fallow field-grass-elderberry-raspberry, on beam on barn wall 8 ft. up, El. 2239 ft. 25 June 2 e. Ad. on; 7 July 2 yg. Ad. on; 13 July NED.
- Mourning Dove¹ - Fantauzzo's, coniferous woods, spruce-dogwood, in spruce 2 ft. up, El. 1640 ft. 29 May 1 e., Ad. on; 5 June 2 e., Ad. on; 19 June 2 yg., wings in sheath; 26 June 2 well-feathered yg. out of n. near nest.
- Mourning Dove² - Corbin Hill, Middaugh's, 2 mi SW of Belmont, Lat. 42°11', Long. 78°03', El. 1750, brushy pasture, Crataegus-Goldenrod, in apple tree, 4.5 ft. up. 25 July 2 e., Ad. on: one e. normal size, second e. about half normal size. 3 Aug. 2 e., Ad. on. 13 Aug. hole in side of normal-sized e. which is infertile (addled); smaller egg has no yolk.
- Black-billed Cuckoo - Irish Settlement Plantation, 5 mi NE of Scio, Lat. 42°14', Long. 77°58', El. 1745 ft., coniferous plantation: spruce-grass, in spruce 4.5 ft. up. 30 June Ad. building, n. nearly complete. 7 July n. complete, no e., no ads. No further activity -- deserted?

Nesting Records cont.

Chimney Swift - Angelica old County Home, 1.5 mi E of Angelica, Lat. $42^{\circ}17'$, Long. $77^{\circ}59'$, El. 1480 ft. in deciduous woods: poplar-willow. Inside large chimney, 18 ft. up. 27 June Ads. making repeated trips into top of chimney, apparently feeding yg. No further visits.

Belted Kingfisher¹ - Scio, Boandga, Lat. $42^{\circ}11'$, Long. $77^{\circ}59'$, El. 1440 ft., mixed woods: poplar-pine, in hole in gravel-sand cliff 5 ft. up. 22 June Ad. on (feeding yg.?). 1 July NEI. 1.5 mi NW of Scio.

Belted Kingfisher² - Scio, Potters', ibid, S. Edge of Scio Village, El. 1455 ft., fallow field: grass-dogwood, in hole in Gravel-sand cliff, 26 ft. up. 24 June Ad. entered hole to stay carrying small fish in beak. 10 July NEI.

Belted Kingfisher³ - Scio, Danielsens', ibid, E edge of Scio Village, El. 1490 ft., in shrubby pasture: crataegus-grass, in cavity in sand cliff, 12 ft. up. 23 June Ad. took small fish in its beak into hole and stayed briefly. 8 July NEI.

Belted Kingfisher⁴ - Withey, Browns' above Baker Valley, Rt. 244, 2 mi E. of Belmont, Lat. $42^{\circ}14'$, Long. $77^{\circ}59'$, El. 1600 ft., in mixed woods: pine-poplar, in hole in gravel pit bank 25 ft. up. 22 May Ad. near, very agitated, 31 May, 14 June Ad. near agitated, 7 July NEI. (Hole looks used.)

Downy Woodpecker - Scio, Cherrys', see above, 1 mi S. of Scio, El. 1455 ft., between river and hay field: alder, willow, in hole in dead elm, 20 ft. up. 1 July Ad. feeding yg. in hole. No further visits.

Downy Woodpecker - Fantauzzo's woods, DEC ponds, El. 1640 ft., mixed woods: Oak-Beech-Hemlock, in Beech 18 ft. up. 11 May Ad. ^o working at hole. No further activity 16 May. No further visits.

N. Flicker - Amity L: Tullar-Chapman, El. 1680 ft., deciduous woods: maple, poplar, in dead poplar snag 20 ft. up. 22 May, 4 June Ad. on. 18, 28 June No activity. 9 July NEI.

E. Wood Pewee - Amity L., 5 mi N of Scio, Lat. $42^{\circ}13'$, Long. $77^{\circ}59'$, El. 1680 ft., in mixed woods: oak-pine, in white oak, 15.5 ft. up (McDuffie's). On live branch near end on top of fort, 10, 13, 15 Aug. Ad. on 2 eggs. Bird clicked like a short-circuited electric wire, drove off other birds. RECORD LATE FOR NEW YORK STATE for eggs by 9 days. 17 Aug. Nest empty -- failure due to predation.

Alder Flycatcher¹ - Saunders Plot, El. 1835 ft., fallow field: dogwood, crataegus, in small crataegus, 1.5 ft. up. 29 June 3 eggs, Ad. near, agitated ("Scarf" on side of n.). 6 July NED.

Alder Flycatcher² - Saunders Plot, El. 1720 ft., fallow field, ibid, in Gray-barked Dogwood, 2.6 ft. up. 29 June 3 eggs, Ad. on. 6 July 3 eggs, Ad. near. 12, 19 July 3 yg. 26 July NEI, Ad. near agitated.

Nesting Records cont.

Alder Flycatcher³ - Fantauzzos', El. 1640, in mixed woods (conifer plantation): Spruce-Elm saplings, in Gray-barked Dogwood, 4.3 ft. up. (High for Alder Flycatcher.) 4,11 July 4 eggs, Ad. on. 16,23 July 4 yg. 30 July NEI.

Least Flycatcher¹ - Amity L.: Tullars', El. 1680 ft., deciduous woods: Beech-Yellow Birch-Maple, in Beech Sapling, 11 ft. up. 4 June Ad. building half-completed n. 18 June NED.

Least Flycatcher² - Feathers Creek (in 1976 Cliff Swallows nested at house here), 2 mi S of Angelica, Lat. 42°16', Long. 77°59', El. 1740 ft., by fallow field: grass-Maple saplings, over highway at end of maple branch, 25 ft. up. 27 June Ad. on. Can't see into n. No further visits.

E. Phoebe - 29 nestings, 21 pairs (4 nesting twice, 1 nesting 3 times). 3 outcome unknown because not revisited; 2 outcome unknown (may have been successful before human interference); 1 outcome unknown (water too deep under n. to check it); 9 failed (1 owner pulled down, 2 n. deserted, 3 lost to predation, 1 cowbird parasitism, 2 pulled down by highway crew painting bridge); 14 successful produced a probable 57 yg. (1st egg 2 May).

E. Kingbird - 7 nestings. 1st egg 2 May. 2 n. outcome unknown because not revisited. 5 successful produced a probable 13 yg. (Wesches T/Ward 1, Angelica 2, Irish Settlement Plant. 1, Saunders Plot 1, Riley Camp Rd. 1, Amity L 1).

Purple Martin - 4 Colonies, all at Scio: Clark, Upper, Lower, Beige, 20 pairs.

Tree Swallow - 49 nestings, 48 pairs (1 pair nesting twice); 1st egg 23 May; From at least 242 eggs, at least 127 yg. fledged. Young found dead in nests - 30; 18 infertile eggs; 32 nests successful; 1 n. outcome unknown; Nestings lost: 2 to unknown cause, 5 to Raccoon, 2 to ♀'s being killed by cat, 3 to House Sparrows, 2 to predation (snake? or Cooper's Hawk?), 1 to House Wrens, 1 to squirrel. I changed wet n. material in 6 boxes (all non-rotenoned boxes).

Outcome of Tree Swallow Rotenone vs Non-Rotenoned Experiment

	21 Rotenoned nests--chosen at random--	21 not Rotenoned nests
Total eggs	115 -----	115
Total yg. hatched	88 -----	88
Total fledged	62 -----	63
Total infertile e.	8 -----	8
Yg. dead in nests	18 -----	10
Total Blowfly Larvae	87 -----	463
% of nests with Blowfly Larvae	38% -----	67%

Nesting Records cont.

Results from the 30 Successful Nests Only

Total eggs	80	-----	83
Total yg. hatched	72	-----	77
Total fledged	62	-----	63
Total infertile e.	6	-----	5
Total dead yg. in nests	8	-----	10
Total Blowfly Larvae	87	-----	403
% of nests with Blowfly Larvae	53%	-----	86%
TOTAL SUCCESSFUL NESTS	15	-----	15

N. Rough-winged Swallow - 6 nestings: in drain pipes, 2 (Irish Settlement, R 244, Br.; and Vandermark Br 2 mi E of Scio); in broken concrete, Withey-Baker-Valley Br.; 1 in cavity in rocks on cliff face, Dry Brook, Scio, Br 1; 2 in hole in gravel-sand bank, Scio (Potters Pit). First building 21 May. 1 outcome unknown; 2 flooded out by flash flood; 3 feeding yg. in n., apparently successful.

Bank Swallow - Scio Colony, Danielsens' (see p. 176), 13 active nests, 12 to 14 ft. up in sandy cut bank. El. 1490 ft. Apparently successful.

Cliff Swallow - 2 mi S of Wellsville, Carl Burdick; under barn and shed eaves, lawn area-grass; one n. 18 ft. up, the other 8 ft. up. Total 2 n.; Ads. feeding yg. in each 8 July. No further visits. El. 1525 ft., Lat. 42°06', Long. 77°56'.

Cliff Swallow - Potters', S edge of Scio Village, Lat. 42°11', Long. 77°59', El. 1455 ft., mown lawn, gravel drive; under peak on Barn Wall, 30 ft. up. 24 June 2 nests with Ad. on each. 10 July one n., no activity; 2nd n. Ad. feeding yg. in n. No further visits.

Barn Swallow - 32 nestings. (Amity L., Wadsworth Hill, Riley Rd., Scio (Potters' shed), Burdick (S of Wellsville), Corbin Hill Rd., Plumbottom (Wesches' silo)). 5 out come unknown; 1 lost to predation; 1 pulled down by owner; 25 successful produced at least 112 yg.; 1 pr. nested twice. First e. 27 May.

Am. Crow - Mulligan Rd. off Rt. 244, 7 mi NE of Scio, Lat. 42°14', Long. 77°55', El. 1920 ft., in deciduous woods: hickory-oak, in Shagbark Hickory, 65 ft. up. 21 May Ad. feeding yg. in n. 2nd Ad. near. 2 June no activity. 14 June NEI.

Nesting Records cont.

Black-capped Chickadee - 4 nests: Box 62 Saunders Rd., Cliff's garden box Amity L., Box 60 Saunders Plot, Box 47 Amity L. Terrace. 23 May first egg. 2 successful (Boxes 62 and 47), each containing blowfly larvae, from 12 e. produced 10 yg. Cliff's lost to Tree Swallows, Box 60 lost to House Wrens.

House Wren - 39 nestings.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - Hood Hill (Amity L.), El. 1900 ft. in deciduous woods: oak-hickory, in Shagbark Hickory, 40 ft. up. 26 June building, much "speeing". 1,8 July n. complete, Ad. near. 16,23 July No activity. 1 Aug. N. empty, gone from branch but for a few tendrils. Lost to predation.

Amity Lake
Belmont, NY 14813

"From Farther Afield"

Notes From The Newsletters of Other Birding Organizations

Jamestown News Letter - December, 1984

A completely albino Red-tail has been observed at the Chautauqua County airport since May. For the third year, this bird has mated with a normal-plumaged female.

Wren's Ramblings - September

Lake Erie Bird Club announces its continued Harbor Watch at Dunkirk for the third fall and winter. This is a continual seven-day monitoring of the dock, the Galley area, and the foot of Deer Street, checking the numbers of wintering waterfowl and maintaining an alert for rare winter visitors.

A Barrow's Goldeneye was seen in November at the harbor.

Little Gull of the Rochester Birding Association

Noteworthy Records during September at Hamlin Beach and Montezuma included three immature Merlins, two Peregrine Falcons, four to six Parasitic Jaegers and a Buff-breasted Sandpiper.

Maryland Bluebird - Nov. - Dec.

Workers are looking for the return of the young Trumpeter Swans, part of an Ontario breeding program, that spent the winter of 1983 in Chesapeake Bay. The province of Ontario has been reintroducing Trumpeters by placing their eggs under Mute Swans.

"From Farther Afield" cont.

Maryland Yellowthroat cont.

In September Scarlett, a female Peregrine Falcon and resident on the USF&G building in Baltimore for the past seven years, died. The cause was undetermined, but the autopsy is expected to give much information about hazards facing Peregrines in an urban environment.

Four days after her death, a new female appeared, performing pair bonding behavior with the resident male, Beauregard. She is probably from a released pair nesting in New Jersey. This rapid replacement of a lost mate suggests that there are a number of unmated Peregrines in Maryland.

Compiled by

Marion Dornhaffer

* * * * *

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

February 13: Dick Christensen on winter birds.

February 27: Clark's Nutcracker - An ornithological quiz using specimens from the BMS Department of Vertebrate Zoology, presented by the Assistant Curator, Arthur Clark.

March 13: HMANA Hawk Migration Film. (date tentative)

March 27: Bob Klips. External Anatomy of Birds. General characteristics of plumage, topography, and special features sometimes used for determining a birds age or sex.

For further information, contact Barbara Walker, Program Committee Chairman, (649-1st St., N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

These trips take most of the day so a lunch should be brought.

- February 17: Canadian Owl Trip. Leader: Blayne Farnan. We will meet Wavel and Maxine Barber (683-3061) at Vermont St. & Busti Ave., near the Peace Bridge, at 8:00 a.m. or in Fort Erie at the first parking lot south (upriver) of the Peace Bridge on River Road at 8:15 a.m.
- March 3: Ontario Plains for winter birds. Meet at Tops market in Lewiston at 8:30 a.m. Tops is across from Lewiston exit on Route 104. Leaders: Harriette and Walter Klabunde (754-4424, Lewiston).
- March 31: Iroquois - Oak Orchard for ducks and geese. Leader: Bill Burch (773-3690). Meet at 8:00 a.m. in front of Citibank, Transitown Plaza (southeast corner of Main and Transit), or meet at 10:15 a.m. at Cayuga Pool Overlook.
- April 14: April Bird Count. Compiler to be announced.
- April 21: Hawks at Grimsby, Ontario. Trip may also include Bluebirds plus shorebirds and ducks at Smithville Lagoon. We will meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge parking lot on the American side of the river for carpooling. Leader: Walter Klabunde (754-4424, Lewiston).
- April 28: Braddock Bay, joint trip with the Genesee Ornithological Society (G.O.S.). Although mainly for hawks, this trip is noted for Western Meadowlarks, Brewer's Blackbirds and other good finds. Leaders: Mike Zebchazy (B.O.S.) (655-4777), Allan and Sandy Klonick (G.O.S.) (473-2996). We will meet at Citibank, Transitown Plaza at 7:00 a.m. to join the G.O.S. at the Braddock Bay park shelter at 9:30 a.m.
- May 11-12: Presque Isle and Pymatuning Weekend; joint trip with Buffalo Audubon Society. Saturday at Presque Isle near Erie, PA; Saturday dinner at Linesville, PA; Sunday at Pymatuning Reservoir. Call Mary Saville (662-5215) for reservations. NOTE: Presque Isle, 80 miles from Buffalo can be the warbler hot spot at this time. Even a 1-day trip there is easy and you might meet Dave Freeland and the Pittsburgh group.
- May 17: Tifft Farm.
- May 19: May Bird Count.
- May 26: Shorebirds on North Shore of Lake Erie.

For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690; Grand Island, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, New York 14304.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Shirley Wake (typing).
Editorial Board: Marian Dornhaffer, Bradley Lown, Julia Wells.

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
819 Auburn Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
1985 REPORT FORM

MARCH WINTERING-BIRD SURVEY
Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird,
Cardinal, and House Finch

REPORT MUST BE IN BY APRIL 10th!

SEND REPORT TO:

Margaret Wright
Versailles 120
4545 Chestnut Rdg
Rd
Williamsville, NY
14221

SPECIES	MARCH '85	No. of Birds at Feeder	No. of Birds seen elsewhere	No. of Section(s) studied	Member B.O.S.?	Any Unusuals?
TUFTED TITMOUSE	1 st , 2 nd					
	3 - 9					
	10 - 16					
	17 - 23					
	24 - 31					
CAROLINA WREN	1 st , 2 nd					
	3 - 9					
	10 - 16					
	17 - 23					
	24 - 31					
NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD	1 st , 2 nd					
	3 - 9					
	10 - 16					
	17 - 23					
	24 - 31					
NORTHERN CARDINAL	1 st , 2 nd					
	3 - 9					
	10 - 16					
	17 - 23					
	24 - 31					
HOUSE FINCH	1 st , 2 nd					
	3 - 9					
	10 - 16					
	17 - 23					
	24 - 31					

IT'S MARCH BIRD SURVEY TIME AGAIN!

Total
No. Observers:

This sheet contains a map of the B.O.S. territory and a 1985 report form which we are to use to indicate the totals observed of each of these five species of birds: Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren, Northern Mockingbird, Northern Cardinal and House Finch. This is the 4th year of this project and we hope the participation of our members and friends on both sides of the US/Canada border will be even greater than last year, when 91 people participated, reporting on 17 sections. HAPPY HUNTING (so to speak)!

NAMES AND
ADDRESSES OF OBSERVERS:

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Bird records from the Noteworthy Records of The Prothonotary and the B.O.S. Bird Counts requiring written verification according to the 'Date Guide to the Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1984) are included in this index.

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THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

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VOLUM 51

JANUARY 1985

NUMBER 1

1985

THE MONTH

December was unseasonably mild with virtually no snowfall. It was the eighth warmest December in 114 years of weather recording at Buffalo with an average temperature for the period of 35.6°F , 6.8° above normal. Record high temperatures were recorded on December 16th (64°F), 17th (61°F) and 29th (61°F). Although precipitation for the month measured 3.67 inches, .25 inches above normal, it was mostly in the form of rain with snowfall totaling only 11.2 inches, 11.7 inches below average. The only significant snowfalls occurred overnight on December 5th-6th when 6.3 inches were recorded and on the 19th when 2.5 inches fell. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Predictably, the mild weather had its effect on bird movement in our area in December. Numbers of both wintering passerine species visiting feeders and white-winged larids at Niagara Falls and other gathering places were far lower than average. Elizabeth Brooks writes that in six hours of net operations in Alfred in Allegany County one day in December, she was unable to band one bird! Our compiler received only one record of an Evening Grosbeak in our study area in December, a single bird seen at a feeder in Alfred by Margaret Klingensmith on the 15th. As noted in these pages last month, there were no reports of this species anywhere in Western New York in October or November.

The compiler received only three records of a Common Loon wintering on the Niagara Frontier this month, all concerning one bird seen most of the month in the Niagara River gorge below the falls at Niagara Falls, Ontario. Two Double-crested Cormorants were seen by several observers in Dunkirk Harbor throughout the month. Canada Geese continue to winter on the Niagara River in record numbers and 520 geese were counted at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge by Don Endres on December 28th. On the 16th, Mary and Jack Wright saw the adult Mute Swan, which now has assumed

ornamental status on the Buffalo Waterfront, by the breakwall at the foot of Porter Avenue. The large congregation of Canvasback Ducks in the upper Niagara River just south of the City of Niagara Falls, Ontario continued to attract attention this month. Art Schaffner estimated the total number at 12,000 birds. The two female King Eiders reported from the Niagara River at Fort Erie in November were seen by many observers at that location until December 15th. All three species of scoters were observed in the river at Niagara Falls, Ontario during the month.

There were many reports of both Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks in the area in December, mostly in the vicinity of bird feeders in residential areas where unnaturally large and vulnerable congregations of wintering passerines provide ample opportunities for predation. Conversely, Rough-legged Hawks were virtually absent as winter visitors.

Up to three Purple Sandpipers were seen by several observers all month among the rocks in the upper rapids of the Niagara River at Niagara Falls, Ontario.

The mild December weather considerably curtailed the activities of Gull watchers on the Niagara River although the month was not without its interesting larid observations. During the B.O.S. field trip on December 2nd, an immature Sabine's Gull was seen flying over the upper rapids of the river at Niagara Falls, Ontario and a Common Black-headed Gull was observed among the myriad Bonaparte's Gulls in the gorge of the lower Niagara River at Queenston. From the excellent observation post afforded by the sand dock at that location, participants on this field trip counted up to six Little Gulls flying among the "Boneys" on that date. Art Schaffner counted five Little Gulls among a flock of Bonaparte's Gulls at the mouth of the Niagara River at Niagara-on-the-Lake on the 11th. He estimated the Bonaparte's Gulls in the river from Niagara Falls to Lake Ontario to number in excess of 30,000 birds. Harold Axtell reported a late Franklin's Gull at Niagara Falls on December 29th. Only one Lesser Black-backed Gull, an adult bird, was reported. It was seen every day between the 26th and 31st perched on the roof of the water intake at the Adam Beck Generating Station at Niagara Falls, Ontario where its mantle and yellow legs contrasted noticeably with the plumage of the hundreds of Ring-billed Gulls sharing the roost. As noted, white-winged gull reports were almost non-existent.

A very late Forster's Tern was seen flying over the Whirlpool Rapids on the Canadian side of the gorge below Niagara Falls by Kevin McLaughlin and Bill Lamond of Hamilton, Ontario on December 8th. The bird, an adult in winter plumage, was closely observed with the diagnostic head pattern, grey tail and black bar through and behind the eye clearly visible. It is the latest fall record for this species in our study area by seven days.

As anticipated, Snowy Owl sightings were few in number in December. At least two owls appeared to be wintering on the Buffalo waterfront, both seen by Grace O'Dell who described one as a dark, immature bird and the other a very white adult male.

A wintering immature Yellow-bellied Sapsucker visited the feeder maintained by Harriette and Walter Klabunde at their residence in Lewiston.

There were two reports of wintering Eastern Bluebirds in December, one seen by Grace O'Dell in Orchard Park on the 15th; during the Christmas Bird Count centering on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on December 19th, Tom Harper saw one bluebird in the Town of Royalton while Don Endres counted four other on the refuge itself. Endres also saw a late Hermit Thrush on the refuge on the 9th. There were many reports of flocks of wintering American Robins but Northern Shrikes are below average in numbers. Again this winter, finches have been conspicuous by their absence.

Finally, the Society's Christmas Bird Count on December 16th was one of the most successful on record and the reader is referred to compiler Bill Bogacki's report elsewhere in these pages for the summary of the observers findings. Among the interesting highlights of the count which merit mention here are the record count of Canada Geese, 1409 birds on the Niagara River exceeding the previous high count of 1079 geese in 1983; there was a very high count of 11,422 Common Mergansers, second only to the record high count of 11,500 birds in 1966; a Black-legged Kittiwake, the only record for the month, was seen at Niagara Falls, Ontario; there was a record high count of 576 Mourning Doves exceeding the previous high total of 358 birds in 1975; there was a record high count of 12 Long-eared Owls, far above the previous high count of five birds in 1955; two Snowy Owls, 20 Great Horned Owls, two Saw-whet Owls and many Screech-Owls were also reported; there were also record high counts of Blue Jay (542), Tufted Titmouse (10), American Robin (270), Yellow-rumped Warbler (6), American Goldfinch (289). No white-winged gulls were reported and only one Little Gull at Niagara Falls.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

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DECEMBER NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Common Loon	Dec.	8	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Harper
	"	11	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner, Smith
	"	25	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Endres

Vol. 51, No. 1 "December Noteworthy Records" cont.

Horned Grebe	Dec.	29	1 Niagara Falls	Axtell et al
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	18,24	1,2 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
Great Blue Heron	"	15	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	Collins
	"	16	1 Ft. Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	19	2 Middleport	Harper
	"	26	1 Brocton	Freeland
Mute Swan	"	16	1 LaSalle Park, Bflo.	Wrights
Canada Goose	"	2	68 Bear Lake	Mosher
	"	28	520 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Green-w. Teal	"	21	2 Orchard Park	Freeland
	"	29	1 Niagara Falls	Axtell et al
Northern Pintail	"	11	1 Ft. Erie, Ont.	Schaffner
	"	27	1 Forest Lawn, Bflo.	Hess
Lesser Scaup	"	29	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
King Eider	"	2	1 Ft. Erie, Ont.	Axtell (BOS)
	"	11	2 Ft. Erie, Ont.	Schaffner
	"	15	1 Ft. Erie, Ont.	Collins
Black Scoter	"	11	3 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner, Smith
Surf Scoter	"	11	2 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner, Smith
White-w. Scoter	"	11	4 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner, Smith
Northern Harrier	"	1,7	1,1 Town of Alabama	Endres
	"	15	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	Collins
	"	19	1 Town of Royalton	Harper
	"	20	1 Town of Oakfield	Endres
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	2	1 Town of Alabama	Endres
	"	6	1 Wales	O. Rosche
	"	8	1 Town of Pomfret (f)	Mosher
	"	19	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	27	1 Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
Cooper's Hawk	"	6,9	1,1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	11	1 Depew	Barbers
	"	15	2 Times Beach	Collins
	"	25	1 Wales	O. Rosche
	"	25	1 Darien (f)	Harper
	"	27	1 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick, Spencer
Killdeer	"	20	1 St. Catharine's, Ont.	Sommerville
Purple Sandpiper	"	2	1 Niagara Falls	Axtell (BOS)
	"	8	3 Niagara Falls	Collins
	"	8	2 Niagara Falls	Harper
Franklin's Gull	"	29	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Axtell et al
Little Gull	"	8	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	"	11	5 Niagara-on-the-Lake	Schaffner, Smith
C. Bl.-headed Gull	"	2	1 Queenston, Ont.	Andrie
L. Black-b. Gull	"	26-31	1 Sir Adam Beck Hydro	Axtell et al
Glaucous Gull	"	23	1 Sir Adam Beck Hydro	Collins, Axtell
Snowy Owl	"	1-31	1-2 Buffalo Harbor	O'Dell
	"	17	1 Tonawanda	D'Anna
	"	22	1 Times Beach	Collins
	"	22	1 Bird Is. Pier	Collins
Long-eared Owl	"	9	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter

Belted Kingfisher	Dec.	6	1 Wales	O. Rosche
"	"	11	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner, Smith
"	"	15	1 Alfred	Brooks, Gradoni
"	"	16	1 Ft. Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
"	"	19	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	23	1 Niagara-on-the-Lake	Collins
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	5,27-31	1 Town of Alabama (f)	Endres
"	"	9,10,19	1,2,3 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	15	1 Alfred	Brooks, Gradoni
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	"	22	1 Lewiston	Klabundes
Northern Flicker	"	2,9,17,19	1,1,1,6 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	17	2 Town of Alabama	Endres
"	"	31	1 Grand Island	Hess
Horned Lark	"	16	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	31	1 Scio	Pitzrick
Tufted Titmouse	"	9	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	31	1 Town of Pomfret	Moshers
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	11	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner, Smith
"	"	15	2 Orchard Park	O'Dell
"	"	15,16	1,4 Alfred	Brooks
Brown Creeper	"	7-16	1-3 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	24	2 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Eastern Bluebird	"	15	1 Orchard Park	O'Dell
Hermit Thrush	"	9	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
American Robin	"	8	50 Queenston, Ont.	Collins
"	"	11	85 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner, Smith
"	"	19	24 Iroquois NWR	Endres
(Maximum counts for the month.)				
N. Mockingbird	"	2	1 Sir Adam Beck Hydro	Axtell (BOS)
"	"	8	1 Youngstown	Collins et al
"	"	11	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner, Smith
"	"	23	1 Sir Adam Beck Hydro	Collins, Axtell
Cedar Waxwing	"	1,5	40,71 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	1-31	15-60 Wales	O. Rosche
(Maximum counts for the month.)				
Northern Shrike	"	15	1 Alfred	Brooks, Gradoni
"	"	26	1 Silver Creek	Freeland
"	"	26	1 Sheridan	Freeland
"	"	31	1 Grand Island	Hess
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	2	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Axtell (BOS)
"	"	11	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner
"	"	19	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	21	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Rufous-s. Towhee	"	9	1 Orchard Park	O'Dell
"	"	24	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Song Sparrow	"	1-31	1 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	"	1-31	1-2 Darien (f)	Harper
"	"	2	3 Wales	O. Rosche
"	"	11	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner
"	"	27	1 Times Beach	Hess

Wh.-thr. Sparrow	Dec.	11	6 Scio	Pitzrick
"	"	15	2 Tifft Farm N.P.	Collins
"	"	20-31	30 Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
"	"	22	10 Wales	O. Rosche
Red-w. Blackbird	"	17	1 Tonawanda	Schaffner
Common Grackle	"	10,11	1,1 Depew	Barbers
Brown-h. Cowbird	"	5-28	20-50 Cheektowaga (f)	P. Schwartz
"	"	20	36 Buffalo	Schaffner
(Maximum counts for the month.)				
*Pine Grosbeak	"	15 F	2 Alfred	Brooks
Purple Finch	"	5,16,18	4,3,11 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	11,31	3,2 Scio	Pitzrick
"	"	16	3 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	26	1 Lewiston	Klabundes
Pine Siskin	"	4	90 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	15	40 Alfred	Brooks, Gradoni
Evening Grosbeak	"	15 F	1 Alfred (f)	M. Klingensmith

Species, subspecies, & hybrids previously recorded.	269
Species, subspecies, & hybrids recorded this issue.	<u>2</u>
Total for the year. . . (including King.Eider.added.from November)	272

Addenda 1984

Ring-necked Duck	Sept.	<u>29</u>	4 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna
<u>L. Black-b. Gull</u>	June	8,10,11,12	1 Buffalo Harbor	J. Schwartz
<u>Common Raven</u>	Nov.	19	1 Great Valley	Eatons
Gray-ch. Thrush	May	<u>6</u>	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	Dishaw (ISNOS)
White-eyed Vireo	May	20, <u>27</u>	1,1 Allegany River Town of Salamanca	Baird
	June	<u>4,28</u>	1,1 Allegany River Town of Salamanca	Baird
<u>Yellow-thr. Warbler</u>	May	1	2 Hamburg (f)	Leonards et al
<u>*Kentucky Warbler</u>	June	2	1 Allegany St. Park	Baird, Sundell
<u>Clay-col. Sparrow</u>	June	14	1 Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
Pine Siskin	June	<u>1-28</u>	1 Town of Amity (f)	Balmas

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ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

Niagara River Trip, December 2, 1984

With a King Eider at the Canadian meeting place for the trip, the temperature in the forties, the wind insignificant, and no precipitation, the only negative factor of the day was the inadequacy of parking space for the many cars carrying the thirty-one B.O.S. members and friends on this trip.

Small flocks and scattered individuals of common kinds of waterfowl floated and dived along the river as our caravan drove past them on our way from Fort Erie to the water-control structure just above the upper rapids. There we scanned the dense raft of 15,000 diving ducks, mostly Canvasbacks, among which we found all five species of the Aythya ducks.

A few hundred yards farther down river on the rocks in the upper rapids, Purple Sandpipers were a choice find, not seen on most trips even at this time of year. Nearly everyone saw at least one or two, some reported as many as four. Gulls and ducks in considerable variety abounded throughout the entire falls area. Below the falls, as well as above, there were birds, birds, birds in abundance and variety to attract our interest.

To some of us the most exciting and memorable event of the day was not the finding or sighting of some rare bird. As a group of us stood at the rim of the gorge near the Horseshoe Falls, an adult Red-tailed Hawk flew several small circles unprecedentedly close just above us, judged variously as only twelve to twenty-five feet above our heads! In the excitement we neglected to check whether one of our group was wearing a fur collar or head-piece!

Additional noteworthy species observed on the trip included a Little Gull, several Robins, the Mockingbird that has been so regular in recent years at the giant bittersweet vine by the Sir Adam Beck overlook, and a late Yellow-rumped Warbler. Among the thousands of gulls present, seven species were found.

The great and deservedly famous gull show on the Niagara River about this time of year tends to make us fail to appreciate the great waterfowl display our river provides at the same time. In addition to a Canada Goose, we listed twenty-one species of ducks, including all three species of scoters and all three mergansers.

We saw a total of forty-two species of birds, one-half of which were ducks and one-sixth gulls, all on, above, or along the borders of the scenic Niagara River.

Harold H. Axtell

REPORT OF THE FIFTY-SIXTH B.O.S. CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

December 16, 1984

Compiled by Bill Bogacki

A good Christmas count resulted from the hard work of 41 participants in the Buffalo circle. Eighty-two species were counted; 78,045 individuals were reported in the 16 territories.

With regard to the 1984 count, the Barrow's Goldeneye which has been with us for the last 6 years did not show this year. The high was the Common Merganser (11,422), last high 11,500 (1966). The Black-legged Kittiwake appeared for the fourth time since the count started.

Other interesting facts and figures of the 56th Buffalo Circle Christmas Count are reported below.

Date: December 16, 1984

Area: Centering on Grand Island, including both branches of the Niagara River and adjacent territory -- from the Gorge below the Falls to Fort Erie and Buffalo.

Weather: The sky was clear in both the morning and the afternoon. Temperatures ranged from an early morning low of 39° (F) to an afternoon high of 58° (F), with winds from the west at 0-15 mph. The Niagara River was free of ice. The snow cover was zero.

Coverage: Forty-one observers in 17 parties made observations from 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Party-hours were 156 (66 on foot and 90 by car), plus 1 hour at feeders and 6 hours owling. Party-miles were 1069 (96 on foot and 973 by car).

Territories and Observers: (leaders underlined)

- A. Canada: Rainbow Bridge south to Welland River and Niagara River west to M.C.R.R., Portage Road and area boundary. Robert Andrie, David Cooper, James Gregory. 48 species; 24,983 individuals.
- B. Canada: Welland River south to Black Creek and the Niagara River west to the Queen Elizabeth Way and area boundary. Richard Byron, Barbara Tomasi. 33 species; 2,076 individuals.
- C. Canada: Queen Elizabeth Way west to area boundary and south to Bowen Road. Wavel Barber, Arthur Schaffner. 22 species; 8,445 individuals.

Fifty-Sixth B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count cont.

- D. Canada: Black Creek south to the Peace Bridge and the Niagara River west to the Queen Elizabeth Way. Frances Rew, Audrey Horbett, Phyllois Abbattson. 33 species; 5,048 individuals.
- E. Canada: Bowen Road south to area boundary and east to Queen Elizabeth Way and Niagara River. Harold Axtell, Blayne Farnan, Brad Clements. 33 species; 16,254 individuals.
- F. Niagara Falls: Porter Road, Hyde Park Boulevard, Pine Avenue and Main Street south to Niagara River, including Goat and Cayuga Islands, and east to Military Road. Karen Renning, Bill Vaughn, Edward Crohn, Mary Ann Stegmeier. 30 species; 9,640 individuals.
- G. North Tonawanda: Military Road southeast to N.Y. State Barge Canal and Niagara River northeast to area boundary. Marie Wendling, Anne Bauer. 24 species; 1,057 individuals.
- H. Tonawanda: Sheridan Drive north to N.Y. State Barge Canal and Niagara River east to area boundary. Willie D'Anna, Dick Collins. 36 species; 1,280 individuals.
- J. Buffalo: Sheridan Drive east and south to area boundary, west to Niagara River. Margaret Wright, Jack Wright. 30 species; 2,319 individuals.
- K. Grand Island: West of Stony Point Road, north of Huth and Long Roads to the Niagara River. Walter & Harriette Klabunde, William Broderick, Charles Dishaw, Alan Kraft, Jim Moreland, Susan Tarano. 52 species; 1,324 individuals.
- L. Grand Island: Huth and Long Roads south to Whitehaven Road, and Stony Point Road west to the Niagara River. Lincoln Nutting, Bill Burch. 30 species; 524 individuals.
- M. Grand Island: East of Stony Point Road and north of Whitehaven Road to the Niagara River. Mike Zebehazy. 40 species; 1,139 individuals.
- N. Grand Island: Whitehaven Road south to Love Road and Baseline Road west to Niagara River. Robert Brock. 28 species; 892 individuals.
- O. Grand Island: Whitehaven Road south to Love Road, and Baseline Road east to the Niagara River. Julia Wells, Alice McKale. 30 species; 656 individuals.
- P. Grand Island: Love Road south to Spaulding Road from the East Branch to the West Branch of the Niagara River. Doug Happ. 42 species; 1,480 individuals.
- Q. Grand Island: South of Spaulding Road to the Niagara River. Bill Bogacki, Dick Christensen, Mike McNally. 42 species; 3,885 individuals.

Fifty-Sixth B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count cont.

Species Recorded: With reference to the species count, letters in parentheses indicate the territories where the birds were found, in those cases where they were reported from three or fewer territories.

Common Loon	5	(A) (F) (K)
Pied-billed Grebe	1	(F)
Great Blue Heron	21	
<u>Mute Swan</u>	1	(J) Second time ever
Canada Goose	1,409	Record; previous high 1,079 (1983)
Wood Duck	2	(J)
Amer. Black Duck	169	
Mallard	2,033	
Northern Pintail	32	(J) (K) (L)
Gadwall	6	(A) (D)
Amer. Wigeon	109	
Canvasback	8,871	
Redhead	67	(A) (J) (Q)
Greater Scaup	575	
Lesser Scaup	26	(A) (J) (Q)
scaup, sp.	20	
Oldsquaw	2	(A) (H)
Black Scoter	3	(A) (K)
Surf Scoter	3	(A)
White-winged Scoter	7	
Common Goldeneye	1,926	
Bufflehead	590	
Hooded Merganser	17	
Common Merganser	11,422	High; previous high 11,500 (1966)
Red-br. Merganser	45	
Ruddy Duck	1	(Q)
N. Harrier	1	(K)
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	(H) (M)
Red-tailed Hawk	71	
Rough-legged Hawk	1	(M)
Amer. Kestrel	30	
Ring-n. Pheasant	12	(H) (K) (L)
Amer. Coot	2	(P)
Purple Sandpiper	3	(A)
Dunlin	1	(K)
Little Gull	1	(A)
Bonaparte's Gull	4,672	
Ring-billed Gull	3,410	
Herring Gull	3,466	
Great Black-b. Gull	158	
<u>Black-legged Kittiwake</u>	1	(A) Fourth time ever
Rock Dove	1,772	Record; previous high 1,536 (1978)
Mourning Dove	576	Record; previous high 358 (1975)

Fifty-Sixth B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count cont.

East. Screech-Owl	9	
Great Horned Owl	20	
Snowy Owl	2	(A) (J)
Long-eared Owl	12	(E) (K) Record; previous high 5 (1955)
N. Saw-whet Owl	3	(B) (P) First sightings in 13 years
Belted Kingfisher	8	
Red-headed Wdpkr.	1	(Q)
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	1	(P) Fourth time ever
Downy Wdpkr.	81	
Hairy Wdpkr.	13	
N. (Yel.-sh.) Flicker	36	
Blue Jay	542	Record; previous high 409 (1980)
Amer. Crow	385	
Black-c. Chickadee	296	
Tufted Titmouse	10	(G) (M) (P) Record; previous high 6 (1973)
Red-br. Nuthatch	6	(H) (N) (Q)
White-br. Nuthatch	34	
Brown Creeper	34	
Golden-cr. Kinglet	39	
American Robin	270	Record; previous high 117 (1980)
Gray Catbird	1	(E) Seventh time ever
North. Mockingbird	2	(E) (K)
Cedar Waxwing	42	
Northern Shrike	2	(E) (M)
European Starling	31,820	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	6	Record; previous high 4 (1980)
Northern Cardinal	149	
Amer. Tree Sparrow	346	
Song Sparrow	32	
Swamp Sparrow	2	(K) (P)
White-throated Sparrow	64	
Dark-eyed Junco	172	
Snow Bunting	10	(M)
Red-w. Blackbird	4	(K) (N)
Common Grackle	4	(B) (H) (K)
Brown-h. Cowbird	16	(G) (O)
Purple Finch	2	(F)
House Finch	132	
Amer. Goldfinch	289	Record; previous high 209 (1980)
House Sparrow	<u>1,606</u>	
Totals:	78,045	individuals
	82	species (Fourth highest ever)

The compiler thanks all who contributed to the Count's fine success.

70 Louise Dr., Cheektowaga, NY 14227

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THE GRACKLE

Ogden Nash

The grackle's voice is less than mellow,
His heart is black, his eye is yellow;
He bullies more attractive birds
With hoodlum deeds and vulgar words;
And should a human interfere,
Attacks that human in the rear.
I cannot help but deem the grackle
An ornithological debacle.

Submitted by Bruce Duncan

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UPDATES TO MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Welcome to the following new members:

Associate Member:

Dick Collins
259 Grimsby Road
Kenmore, NY 14223
Tel. 874-5129

Readmitted as Associate Member:

Mrs. Daniel (Jane) Cole
2266 W. Oakwood Road
Grand Island, NY 14072
Tel. 773-5577

Corresponding Member:

Mrs. Vivian Mills Pitzrick
Amity Lake
Belmont, NY 14813

Address Changes:

Thomas Beachy
10156 Harpen Road
Darien Center, NY 14040

Harold Freund
P. O. Box 485
Buffalo, NY 14215

Change in Membership:

Winston W. Brockner to Corresponding Membership.

* * * * *

A memorial service for Dr. Kenneth Balmas was held February 13, 1985 at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Main and Harris Hill Road.

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MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

- March 27: Bob Klips. External Anatomy of Birds. General characteristics of plumage, topography, and special features sometimes used for determining a birds age or sex.
- April 10: Iroquois NWR - Management Program.
- April 24: Bird Songs - Getting Ready for Spring. "How to's" of writing reports and verifications. Fran Rew.
- May 8: Shorebirds and Possibilities. Art Schaffner.
- May 22: Fish and Wildlife Update. Walt Klabunde. Open discussion on Research Project for future study.
- June 12: Picnic - Old Fort Erie Park. 6:00 p.m. Bring supper.

For further information, contact Barbara Walker, Program Committee Chairman, (649-1242, Hamburg, N.Y.).

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FIELD TRIPS

These trips take most of the day so a lunch should be brought.

- March 31: Iroquois - Oak Orchard for ducks and geese. Leader: Bill Burch (773-3690). Meet at 8:00 a.m. in front of Citibank, Transitown Plaza (southeast corner of Main and Transit), or meet at 10:15 a.m. at Cayuga Pool Overlook.
- April 14: April Bird Count. Compiler to be announced.

- April 21: Hawks at Grimsby, Ontario. Trip may also include Bluebirds plus shorebirds and ducks at Smithville Lagoon. We will meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge parking lot on the American side of the river for carpooling. Leader: Walter Klabunde (754-4424, Lewiston).
- April 28: Braddock Bay, joint trip with the Genesee Ornithological Society (G.O.S.). Although mainly for hawks, this trip is noted for Western Meadowlarks, Brewer's Blackbirds and other good finds. Leaders: Mike Zebehazy (B.O.S.)(655-4777), Allan and Sandy Klonick (G.O.S.)(473-2996). We will meet at Citi-bank, Transitown Plaza at 7:00 a.m. to join the G.O.S. at the Braddock Bay park shelter at 9:30 a.m.
- May 11-12: Presque Isle and Pymatuning Weekend; joint trip with Buffalo Audubon Society. Saturday at Presque Isle near Erie, PA; Saturday dinner at Linesville, PA; Sunday at Pymatuning Reservoir. Call Mary Saville (662-5215) for reservations. NOTE: Presque Isle, 80 miles from Buffalo can be the warbler hot spot at this time. Even a 1-day trip there is easy and you might meet Dave Freeland and the Pittsburgh group.
- May 12: Tifft Farm.
- May 19: May Bird Count.
- May 26: Shorebirds on North Shore of Lake Erie.

For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690; Grand Island, N.Y.).

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For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

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Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr, William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, New York 14304.

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BACK ISSUES:

Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

\$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Pat Cordaro (printing), Bonney Harnish, Shirley Wake (typing).

Editorial Board: Wavel Barber, Marian Dornhaffer, Bradley Lown, Julia Wells.

EDITOR:

Robert A. Klips
819 Auburn Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

VOLUME 51

FEBRUARY 1985

MAR 01 1985

NUMBER 2

THE MONTH

After a mild and rainy New Year's Day in which the high temperature for the month, 63° (F) was reached, January was a decidedly wintry month with the dubious distinction of having the second greatest monthly snowfall ever recorded at Buffalo, 65.9 inches, an amount just short of the 68 inches recorded here during the infamous "Blizzard of '77" in January, 1977. The heavy snowfall was a local phenomenon, however, generated by the severe cold temperatures following a deep low pressure system from Canada which passed through the area on January 19th dumping 15 inches of snow. When the sub-zero cold reached the warm (40° F) waters of Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, it generated a new storm with squalls off of the lakes causing blizzard conditions in the Niagara Peninsula and Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee and parts of Wyoming counties. The counties of southwestern New York were virtually untouched; snow cover in Allegany County measured only 16 inches by month's end. By January 21st, heavy snow and high winds brought traffic and commercial activity in the City of Buffalo to a standstill. The average temperature for the month was 21.1° (F), 2.6° below normal for the period. Temperatures remained below normal for the rest of January following the weather disturbance on the 19th and Lake Erie froze over on the 22nd tempering the velocity of the winds battering the area when the cold weather descended on the open water. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

The advent of more seasonal weather in January also brought an influx of white-winged gulls to the Niagara River and the activity at feeders throughout the study area showed a marked increase. There was still no irruption of finches although a few records of Evening Grosbeaks were received. It is the consensus of most informed field observers that the bountiful cone crops in the evergreen forests of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and the Adirondack Mountains has been the most important factor in explaining the absence of grosbeaks further south this winter.

In any case, neither the severe winter weather or the absence of finches dampened the ardor of our field observers and January was a far more interesting month for the compiler than the preceding one. The mouth of the Niagara River at Niagara-on-the-Lake and the open waters of Dunkirk Harbor were the scenes of the most interesting observations. On January 2nd, Harold Axtell, Paul Benham and John Black were standing on the bank of the Niagara River south of the golf course at Niagara-on-the-Lake when they observed a large, thick-necked alcid swimming in the river in front of the U.S. Coast Guard station about 50 yards from the shoreline on the American side and some 300 yards from the observers. The black back and wings of the bird were sharply demarcated against the pure white sides which extended well up on the cheeks of the face. The large, attenuated bill identified it as an adult Razorbill. Axtell remarked in his account of the observation that while the vertical white mark across the bill which distinguishes the adult from the immature bird in this species, could not be recognized with certainty, the size and thickness of the bill immediately identified it as an adult bird. The observers watched this bird with 20x and 40x scopes for fifteen minutes until it disappeared among the high waves on Lake Ontario. Unfortunately, as is so often the case with birds seen on a major flyway such as Lake Ontario, it could not be located again. It was only the second observation of a Razorbill in our study area and the third inland record for New York State. Readers will recall that it was at this same location that Bruce Duncan and Kevin McLaughlin observed an immature Razorbill on November 27th, 1982.

On January 29th, Dave Gagne and Bob Sundell discovered a sub-adult Laughing Gull in winter plumage flying among a flock of Bonaparte's Gulls and Ring-billed Gulls at the west end of the Dunkirk Harbor in Chautauqua County. The bird was intermediate in size between the other two species and identified by its pale white forehead and long slate-gray wings contrasting with its black primaries, distinguishing it from the morphologically similar first year Franklin's Gull. By the end of the month, this gull was seen by many observers.

Among the many interesting records received in January was a report of a Red-throated Loon seen by Harold Axtell at Fort Niagara State Park on January 3rd. A second Red-throated Loon was reported by Dick Collins and Axtell at Niagara-on-the-Lake on the 10th. Harold Axtell remarked on the unusual sight of "many flocks" of Canada Geese apparently migrating southward over the Niagara Peninsula of Southern Ontario in mid-January. Axtell saw or heard six or seven such flocks personally and was informed of similar movements of geese by other observers he met in the field. There were many reports of wintering geese in our area. Don Endres counted 450 geese at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on the 10th but by the 30th only 46 birds were in evidence. Also on the 30th, Bob Sommerville counted 454 geese on the Niagara River at Fort Erie while up to 150 were seen at Dunkirk Harbor on that date. Dunkirk Harbor was also the only scene of a concentration of wintering grebes with 55 to 60 Horned Grebes counted there on January 29th and three to four Pied-billed and two Red-necked Grebes in residence all month. In addition to the adult Mute Swan in Buffalo Harbor, a second adult bird of this species was reported by Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter at Niagara Falls, Ontario on January 6th. There were several reports of wintering Northern Pintails including five birds at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on January 1st and single birds at Forest Lawn Cemetery on the 13th and in Dunkirk Harbor on the 9th. All three species of scoters were seen in Dunkirk Harbor in January including two Black Scoters reported by Frances Rew and her party on January 30th.

In addition to the many reports of both Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks, Northern Goshawks also made their appearance in our area. Frances Rew saw a goshawk in the Town of Pomfret in Chautauqua County on January 6th; on January 14th, Alice McKale reported a sub-adult Northern Goshawk feeding on a starling in her yard on Larch Road in the Town of Amherst. On the 17th and again on the 28th, Olga Rosche saw an immature goshawk perched near a feeder behind her home on Fish Hill Road in the Town of Wales. On January 25th, Dave Freeland was driving on the Queen Elizabeth Way near Vineland, Ontario when he spotted a large falcon perched on a wire along side of the road. He stopped to observe it with his 7x50 binoculars and identified it as an adult male Peregrine Falcon with the diagnostic dark crown and 'moustache' extending downward from the eyes as well as the typical falcon wing and tail configuration clearly seen when it took flight.

Bob Andrie's annual New Year's Day field trip around the Niagara Loop revealed an increase in the number of white-winged gulls on the Niagara River. Two Glaucous Gulls were seen at Niagara Falls, Ontario and an additional two gulls of this species and two Iceland Gulls were observed from the overlook at the Sir Adam Beck Generating Station further north. Dick Collins and Harold Axtell counted six Glaucous Gulls on the river on January 10th while Collins saw nine on the 13th. Fran Rew saw single adult Lesser Black-backed Gulls at the Sir Adam Beck Generating Station and in the gorge at Niagara Falls on the 1st while Harold Axtell saw one in the gorge on January 10th. Bob Andrie and his party saw two Little Gulls at Queenston on the 1st while Fran Rew and Lois Buck counted single birds of this species in Dunkirk Harbor on January 5th and 13th.

Snowy Owls were also more in evidence in our study area in January. A large female spent the month at the Niagara Falls Airport on Walmore Road in the Town of Wheatfield while other owls were seen along the Thruway in western Niagara and northern Erie counties. At least one Snowy Owl was also in residence on the runway at the St. Catharines, Ontario airport and Bill Burch was informed of two snowies seen most of the month in a field adjacent to the small Gasport Airport in the Town of Royalton in eastern Niagara County.

Walter and Harriette Klabunde report that three Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers visited the feeder to the rear of their premises on the Creek Road in Lewiston during January. Two of the birds were an adult male and female while the third was an immature sapsucker. On January 14th, Terry Mosher added a Winter Wren to his list for the new year when he lured it out of heavy underbrush in Lake Erie State Park in Chautauqua County by playing a tape of a Screech Owl. On January 12th, Dave Gagne and Bob Sundell observed a wintering Ruby-crowned Kinglet at a suet feeder on Gifford Avenue in the Town of Busti in Chautauqua County. The bird was seen daily at this feeder between the 6th and 20th. In spite of the severe weather in January, American Robins continued to winter on the Niagara Frontier in large numbers which most observers found to be in proportion to the berry crop in heavy shrub cover in the area where they were observed. Harold Axtell advises that the flock of robins numbering 100 birds which remained in the vicinity of his residence on the Rose Hill Road in Fort Erie was larger than in any previous winter; they remained until the fruit crop on the Washington Hawthorne bushes that attracted them was depleted. Terry Mosher reported a flock of 120 robins at Lake Erie State Park on January 5th and a flock of 90 in the Town of Stockton in Chautauqua County on the 8th. Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter counted over 50 robins at Goat Island at Niagara Falls on January 19th.

Records of wintering Yellow-rumped Warblers received in January include five at Lake Erie State Park on the 5th reported by Terry Mosher and 28 seen by Frances Rew and Lois Buck in the Town of Portland in Chautauqua County on the 13th. Wintering flocks of Red-winged Blackbirds were much in evidence in January. Up to 92 birds were reported by Don Endres visiting a feeder in the Town of Alabama in Genesee County and at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, a maximum count of 475 birds on January 10th was reduced to 80 by the 31st. On January 6th, Terry Mosher saw six Rusty Blackbirds in the Town of Stockton. Cy Wolfling reported a junco visiting his feeder daily in the Town of Alden during the month was conspicuously brown in coloration on the sides and probably an example of the Dark-eyed Junco (J. hyemalis) of the "Oregon" race.

Finally, there were several reports of Lapland Longspurs associating with flocks of Snow Buntings in January. Dick Collins saw three Lapland Longspurs among a flock of 500 Snow Buntings in the Town of Alabama on the 13th and Gail and Delores Seamans saw two in the Town of Bethany in Genesee County on the 27th. On January 28th, Bruce Chilton reported two Lapland Longspurs among a flock of 500 Snow Buntings at the Van Buren Road Airport in the Town of Pomfret on January 28th; there were also 20 Horned Larks of the "northern race," Eremophila alpestris alpestris, among this flock.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY 14217

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JANUARY NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Red-throated Loon	Jan.	3	1 Fort Niagara	Axtell et al
	"	10	1 Niagara-on-the-Lake	Collins, Axtell
Common Loon	"	13,19	1,1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	"	14	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Benton
	"	18	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Goetz
Pied-billed Grebe	"	5,13	3,3 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
	"	19	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	29	4 Dunkirk Harbor	Sundell, Gagne
Red-necked Grebe	"	17	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers, Gagne
	"	18,30	1,1 Dunkirk Harbor	Goetz
	"	29	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Sundell et al
	"	30	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew et al

Great Blue Heron	Jan.	4	2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	12	1 Scio	Pitzrick
"	"	18	1 No. Pembroke	G. & D. Seamans
B.-Cr. Night-Heron	"	2-15	1 Ft. Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
Mute Swan	"	1	1 Buffalo	Rew et al
"	"	6	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
Northern Pintail	"	1	5 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	8-24	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers
"	"	9	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Goetz
"	"	13	1 Forest Lawn, Bflo.	Hess et al
"	"	29	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Sundell, Gagne
King Eider	"	13	3 Fort Niagara S.P.	Collins
Black Scoter	"	13	2 Niagara-on-the-Lake	G. & D. Seamans
"	"	30	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew et al
Surf Scoter	"	29	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Chilton
White-w. Scoter	"	29	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Chilton
"	"	30	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Goetz
Hooded Merganser	"	11,29	5,1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher et al
"	"	13,30	1,3 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew et al
"	"	26	2 Ft. Erie, Ont.	Barbers
Ruddy Duck	"	19	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Northern Harrier	"	1	1 Oak Orchard WMA	G. & D. Seamans
"	"	13	2 Port Maitland, Ont.	Duncan
"	"	13	1 Town of Alabama	Collins
"	"	14	1 Town of Alabama	Endres
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	1	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	5	1 Kent Switch	Rew, Buck
"	"	5	1 Lake Erie S.P.	Moshers
"	"	6-28	1 Wales	O. Rosche
"	"	10	1 Orchard Park	Saville
"	"	10	1 Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell, Collins
"	"	11-31	1 Town of Pomfret (f)	Moshers
"	"	13	1 Town of Portland	Rew, Buck
"	"	21	1 Fredonia	Goetz
"	"	22	1 Town of Alabama	Endres
Cooper's Hawk	"	1,25,26	1 Alden (f)	Wolfling
"	"	4-21	1 Darien (f)	Harper
"	"	8-23	1 Wales	O. Rosche
"	"	10	1 Belmont	Pitzrick
"	"	11	1 Middleport	Krog
"	"	12,18,25	1 Belmont	Pitzrick
"	"	13	1 Town of Alabama	Endres
"	"	13	1 Medina	Collins
"	"	14,28	1,1 Orchard Park	Saville
Northern Goshawk	"	14	1 Eggertsville	McKale
"	"	17,28	1,1 Wales	A. & O. Rosche
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	10,11,21	1 Town of Angelica	Burtens
"	"	11	1 Town of Ward	Burtens
"	"	23	1 Town of Amity	Burtens, Jordan
"	"	25	2 Sheridan	Freeland
"	"	31	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Gagne

<u>Peregrine Falcon</u>	Jan.	25	(Adult) 1	Vineland, Ont.	Freeland
American Coot	"	29	30	Dunkirk Harbor	Sundell, Gagne
Killdeer	"	29	1	Towerville	Sundell, Gagne
Purple Sandpiper	"	10	2	Niagara Falls	Collins, Axtell
	"	13	4	Niagara Falls	Collins
<u>Laughing Gull</u>	"	29	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Sundell, Chilton,
	"				Mosher et al
	"	30	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew et al
Little Gull	"	1	2	Queenston, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	5,13	1,1	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Iceland Gull	"	10,13	1,3	Adam Beck Hydro	Collins
	"	13	6	Niagara River	Axtell
	"	13	1	Adam Beck Hydro	Barbers
	"	13	1	Wilson	Collins
L. Black-b. Gull	"	1	1	Adam Beck Hydro	Rew et al
Glaucous Gull	"	1	2	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	1	2	Adam Beck Hydro	Andrle et al
	"	1	2	Adam Beck Hydro	Rew et al
	"	1	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Rew et al
	"	10	6	Niagara River	Collins, Axtell
	"	13,26	1,1	Adam Beck Hydro	Barbers
	"	13	9	Niagara River	Collins
	"	26	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Barbers
<u>Razorbill</u>	"	2	1	Fort Niagara	Axtell et al
<u>Snowy Owl</u>	"	3	1	Town of Lewiston	Burch
	"	3	1	Town of Wheatfield	Burch
	"	10	1	St. Catharine's, Ont.	Collins, Axtell
	"	14	1	Middleport	Krogs
	"	26	1	Town of Wheatfield	Barbers
Long-eared Owl	"	12	1	Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
Short-eared Owl	"	1	1	Town of Lockport	Hess
Belted Kingfisher	"	1-31	1	Belmont	Burtons
	"	1,4	1,2	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	1-31	1-2	Scio	Pitzrick
	"	12,13	1	Scio	Burtons
	"	12	1	Ft. Erie, Ont.	Collins
	"	24	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	"	26	1	Chippawa, Ont.	Barbers
	"	30	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew et al
	"	31	1	Belmont	Pitzricks
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	1-31	1	Town of Alabama (f)	Endres
	"	1-31	1	Batavia	G. & D. Seamans
	"	1-31	1	Middleport	Krogs
	"	4,10,30,31	1,3,1,1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	6	1	Cayuga, Ont.	Duncan
	"	13	1	Iroquois NWR	Collins
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	"	4-31	1-3	Town of Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
Northern Flicker	"	2,10	1,1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	4,7	1,2	Ft. Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	9,25	1	Alden (f)	Wolfling
	"	13	1	Niagara Falls	Collins

Northern Flicker	Jan.	26-31	1 Eggertsville (f)	McKale
(cont.)	"	30	1 Town of Sheridan	Rew et al
Pileated Wdpkr.	"	1-31	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	13	1 Iroquois NWR	Collins
	"	18	1 Scio	Pitzrick
Horned Lark	"	11	16 Town of Amity	Burtons, Jordan
	"	28	20 Fredonia	Chilton
Tufted Titmouse	"	26	2 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	"	28-31	2-3 Town of Pomfret (f)	Moshers
	"	31	2 Fredonia	Mosher, Gagne
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	4,5	2,2 Alfred	Brooks
Brown Creeper	"	4	2 Alfred	Brooks
	"	12	2 Niagara Falls	Collins
	"	24	1 Belmont	Burtons
Winter Wren	"	14	1 Pt. Gratiot	Mosher
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	1	2 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Rew et al
	"	4	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	18	1 Scio	Pitzrick
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	"	12	1 Lakewood	Sundell, Mosher et al
American Robin	"	5,15	30 Alden	Wolfling
	"	5	120 Lake Erie S.P.	Moshers
	"	8-14	25-70 Fredonia	Goetz
	"	9	90 Town of Stockton	Mosher
	"	13,15-16	40,100 Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	"	14	70 Canadaway Cr. N.S.	Mosher
	"	29	50 Dunkirk	Sundell, Gagne
Maximum counts for the month.				
N. Mockingbird	"	6	1 Niagara-on-the-Lake	McKale et al
	"	9	1 St. Catharine's, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	13	1 Dunnville	Duncan
	"	14,19	1,1 Chippawa, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	22	1 Town of Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
	"	30	1 Town of Sheridan	Rew et al
Northern Shrike	"	10	1 St. Catharine's, Ont.	Collins, Axtell
	"	12	1 Town of Stockton	Mosher
	"	13	1 Town of Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
	"	21	1 Darien (f)	Harper
	"	25	1 Montrose, Ont.	Freeland
	"	30	1 Town of Evan	Rew et al
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	5	5 Lake Erie S.P.	Moshers
	"	13	28 Town of Portland	Rew, Buck
Song Sparrow	"	1-31	2-3 Darien (f)	Harper
	"	1-31	1 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	"	4	5 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	10	1 Niagara Falls	Collins
	"	12,18	1,4 Scio	Pitzrick
	"	19	1 Orchard Park	Saville
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	"	20-31	45 Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell

Volume 51, No. 2 "January Noteworthy Records" cont.

Wh.-cr. Sparrow	Jan.	14	3 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	15-31	1 Eden	Andrle
	"	23,31	1,1 Middleport	Krogs
	"	27,28	5,4 Ridgeway, Ont.	Sommerville
Lapland Longspur	"	10	11 Town of Oakfield	Endres
	"	13	3 Town of Alabama	Collins
	"	18	2 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	27	2 Town of Bethany	G. & D. Seamans
	"	28	2 Fredonia	Chilton
Snow Bunting	"	10	8 Town of Alabama	Endres
	"	11	38 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	12	130 Java	Collins
	"	13	500 Town of Alabama	Collins
	"	18,26	175,250 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	26	8 Ransomville	Cooper
	"	26	5 Fort Niagara S.P.	Cooper
	"	28	500 Fredonia	Chilton
Red-w. Blackbird	"	1-31	1-92 Town of Alabama (f)	Endres
	"	7	1 Eggertsville (f)	McKale
	"	10,18,31	80-475 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	11-31	1 Alfred (f)	Klingensmith
	"	13-31	1 Wales (f)	O. Rosche
	"	22	1 Batavia	G. & D. Seamans
	"	26	1 Darien (f)	Harper
	"	27	3 Town of Tonawanda	Hess
Eastern Meadowlark	"	13	2 Town of Amity	Burtons, Jordan
Rusty Blackbird	"	9	6 Town of Stockton	Mosher
Common Grackle	"	21	1 Middleport	Krogs
Brown-h. Cowbird	"	1-31	4-18 Eggertsville (f)	McKale
	"	16-29	1-45 Ft. Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	22-24	1-3 Depew	Barbers
Purple Finch	"	2-29	1-16 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	9-31	1-3 Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	"	12	10 Town of Amity	Burtons
	"	12,19	1,1 Scio	Pitzrick
	"	15,19,22	2,2,1 Belmont	Burtons
	"	19	3 Town of Pomfret	Rew, Buck
	"	28	1 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	29	4 Fredonia	Goetz
Evening Grosbeak	"	13,15,29	1,1,1 Wales (f)	O. Rosche
	"	18,26	3,2 Alfred (f)	Klingensmith
	"	20	2 Ft. Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	20-31	1-20 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzricks

Also seen during January, 1985:

Horned Grebe, Canada Goose, Amer. Black Duck, Mallard, Gadwall, American Wigeon, Canvasback, Redhead, Greater Scaup, Lesser Scaup, Oldsquaw, Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Common Merganser, Red-br. Merganser, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Ring-n. Pheasant, Ruffed Grouse, Wild Turkey, Bonaparte's Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Herring Gull, Gr. Black-b. Gull, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, E. Screech Owl, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Blue Jay, American Crow, Black-c. Chickadee, White-br. Nuthatch, Cedar Waxwing, European Starling, Northern Cardinal, Amer. Tree Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, House Finch, American Goldfinch, House Sparrow (43 species).

Total species, subspecies and hybrids. 105

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Recently, I was asked to write something for those people who are unfamiliar with "Noteworthy Records." I hope the following "fills the bill."

Willie D'Anna, Compiler

Submission of Bird Sighting Records

Please send the following information with each record: species, subspecies if appropriate, date, number of individuals, location, and observers' names. Do not forget to send verification write-ups for those sightings which the B.O.S. Date Guide indicates.

"Noteworthy" records are essentially chosen from the following categories:

1. First, second, and last migrants,
2. Uncommon and rare visitants and residents,
3. Unusual numbers.

If there is the slightest chance that a sighting fits one of these categories, send it in. Do not assume, for example, that it is too late for your bird to be the first migrant of its kind or that someone else will report the sighting. Some people report everything they see and that's okay, too. The rule is: when in doubt, report it.

For those interested in learning when species occur in our region and how common or rare they are, there is a lot of good information available. The B.O.S. Date Guide, old issues of The Prothonotary, and Birds of the Niagara Frontier Region by Clark S. Beardslee and Harold D. Mitchell are all useful for birds in our region. Two periodicals, The Kingbird and Ontario Birds, provide bird records on a New York statewide and Province of Ontario level, respectively, and American Birds features records from all of North America.

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ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

Report of January Waterfowl Count

The following is the result of the January 1985 Waterfowl Count for region #1 of the Federation of New York Bird Clubs. The Kingbird will publish the state-wide count at a later date.

Dates included January 12 through January 20, with January 13 the target date.

Common Loon	1	average
Horned Grebe	5	average
Pied-billed Grebe	3	average
Canada Goose	1,093	high average
Mallard	2,631	high average
Black Duck	284	2nd lowest
Gadwall	25	average
Pintail	2	very low
Green-winged Teal	1	low
American Wigeon	54	medium low
Redhead	193	average
Ring-necked Duck	1	average
Canvasback	886	2nd lowest
Greater Scaup	3,462	highest in 15 years
Lesser Scaup	3	low
Common Goldeneye	3,930	average
Bufflehead	173	low
Oldsquaw	5,449	highest ever - by far
King Eider	1	first seen in 16 years
White-winged Scoter	10	average
Surf Scoter	1	average
Black Scoter	1	average
Hooded Merganser	5	average
Common Merganser	2,121	low
Red-br. Merganser	15	low
 TOTAL	 20,351	 average
TOTAL SPECIES	25	average
 Maximum Total	 46,200	 seen in 1960
Maximum Species	39	seen in 1960

Most of the inland lakes, ponds, swamps and streams were frozen over as well as all of Chautauqua Lake and some of Lake Erie. Dunkirk Harbor, of course, was open.

The following people took part in the count:

- A - Lake Ontario - Pt. Breeze to Olcott
- B - Lake Ontario - Walter Klabunde
- C - Ft. Niagara to Gorge at the Falls - Willie D'Anna
- D - Niagara-on-the-Lake to Gorge at the Falls - Mike Zebehazy
- E - Bflo. N. Harbor to Goat Island - Reckhow & Thill
- F - Ft. Erie to Canadian Falls - Axtell
- G - Grand Island - Marj Frank
- H - Lake Erie - Bflo. S. Harbor to Silver Creek - Bob Andrie
- I - Lake Erie - Silver Creek to Pennsy Line - Fran Rew
- J - Jamestown and Chautauqua Lake - Sundell
- K - Olean - Salamanca - Steve Eaton
- L - Allegany County Area - Lou Burton
- M - Batavia - Seamans
- N - Oak Orchard & Tonawanda G.M.A.
- O - Iroquois Nat. Wildlife Refuge - Olsen
- P - Williamsville Area - Margaret Wendling
- Q - Del. Park, Forest Lawn, Zoo - Cynthia Millard

Thanks very much to all those who took part in the count.

Alan H. Reckhow

B.O.S. Roster Update

New Corresponding Member:

Gordon Bellerby
129 Victoria Street
Box 1276
Niagara-on-the-Lake,
Ontario, Canada LOS 1J0

Address Changes:

Robert Schrader
2729 Traveler's Pond Drive
Edgewood, Florida 32032

Thomas Beachy
10156 Harper Road
Darien Center, NY 14040

Condolences

The Buffalo Ornithological Society wishes to express condolences to Esther Becker and Marie Wendling in the recent loss of their loved ones.

A Call For Volunteers

The B.O.S. has agreed to host the 1985 Federation of NY State Bird Clubs Annual Meeting. The dates are October 11-13. We have reserved the Lord Amherst Motel on Main Street just northwest of the Youngman Expressway (I-290) for the meeting place, housing and meals. Several of the basic committee chairpersons have been appointed but we need many B.O.S. members to help with some of the preliminary planning as well as in September and during the meeting week-end to have this meeting run smoothly and successfully.

This is an opportunity to meet with many of the well known birders of New York state as well as hear a number of papers pertaining to various phases of birding and participate in a choice of 2 one hour workshops.

Briefly, the itinerary for the three days is tentatively as follows:

Friday, 11 October - Registration and delegates meeting in the afternoon (a field trip for non-delegates), a "Get Acquainted - Wine and Cheese Party" followed by dinner. 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. Workshops.

Saturday, 12 October - Breakfast 6 - 7 a.m.
Field trips for delegates 7-9 a.m. followed by delegates meeting.
Field trips for non-delegates 7:30 till noon.
Noon - lunch.
Afternoon - Paper sessions followed by cash bar
- Banquet with speaker.

Sunday, 13 October - Breakfast followed by field trips for those interested before returning home.

Volunteers are needed to help in the following activities:

Audio-Visual - Assure the appropriate equipment is available and set up for each speaker - microphone, projector, lighting, blackboard, etc.

Budget-Finance - Determine all expenses to be met and set registration fees.

Exhibits - Help set up exhibits, carvings, paintings, pictures, etc. Check on security and help dismantle.

Field Trips - Plan and organize interesting field trips and check out routes to make certain the trips fit into allotted time. Prepare maps for each trip. Outline possible birding areas near motel for self-guided birding. Provide leaders for each trip on Saturday morning and possible Sunday trips.

Publicity - Help with write-ups describing speakers, work-shops, banquet speaker, field trips to appear in federation news letter sent to all members and affiliate bird clubs.

A Call For Volunteers cont.

Registration - Prepare kits for registrants and man the registration table Friday afternoon and Saturday.

Souvenir - Any suggestions for a suitable favor to be given to each registrant at the banquet setting.

Hospitality - Assist in wine and cheese party. See that key people are introduced. Help keep program and meals on schedule.

If you can help on any of these committees, please notify us at 4923 Creek Road, Lewiston, NY 14092, or telephone 754-4424.

Harriette & Walter Klabunde

"From Farther Afield"

Notes From The Newsletters of Other Birding Organizations

According to a report in Belted Kingfisher (Delaware-Otsego Audubon, March), the bird most often brought in for rehabilitation at the Madalyn Baldwin Center for Birds of Prey, Maitland, FL, is the American Kestrel. The reason given by the director is that mourning doves are hunted in Florida and many hunters, either careless or uninformed, shoot the Kestrel by accident.

The Cleveland Bird Calendar reported a rarity in October: an Asiatic shorebird, the Sharp-tailed Sandpiper. A regular fall migrant in the Western Aleutians and the Bering Sea area, this sandpiper normally appears as a rare but regular fall visitor from British Columbia to California. Its appearance with a flock of Pectoral Sandpipers suggests that it got mixed up with them in western Alaska and migrated with the flock southeast across Canada and the Great Lakes. The bird was banded on October 6.

Other rarities in the Cleveland area during 1984 included a Curlew Sandpiper, Barrow's Goldeneye, American White Pelican, and a Bell's Vireo.

The Little Gull (Rochester Birding Association, Feb.) carries a report on a bluebird trail monitored in Livingston County by Paul Conklin. Fifty boxes were established and to prevent a recurrence of the raccoon predation of 1983, most were mounted on 1/2 inch galvanized waterpipes. Bluebird activity began in mid-March. There were 22 attempted nestings and 16 successes. Four failures were weather related. A single day of cold or rainy weather early in the season when insect food is scarce can destroy a whole clutch. A total of 97 eggs were laid, 65 hatched in successful nests (those from which at least one bluebird fledged) with a total young of 61 fledged (65.6%).

"From Farther Afield" cont.

Mr. Conklin indicated this is the best in 6 years of Bluebirding. To know that you have helped in adding more than 100 Eastern Bluebirds to the population must be very gratifying.

Compiled by: Marian Dornhaffer

* * * * *

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

April 24: Iroquois NWR -- Management Program.

May 8: Birding Trip to Florida. Bill & Olive Burch will take you from St. Augustine to the Everglades with selected slides of Florida birds and birding hot spots as well as a few non-birding attractions.

May 22: Fish and Wildlife Update. Walt Klabunde. Open discussion on Research Project for future study.

June 12: Picnic - Old Fort Erie Park. 6:00 p.m. Bring supper.

For further information, contact Barbara Walker, Program Committee Chairman, (649-1241, Hamburg, N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

These trips take most of the day so a lunch should be brought.

April 23: Braddock Bay, joint trip with the Genesee Ornithological Society (G.O.S.). Although mainly for hawks, this trip is noted for Western Meadowlarks, Brewer's Blackbirds and other good finds. Leaders: Mike Zebehazy (B.O.S., 655-4777), Allan & Sandy Klonick (G.O.S., 473-2996). We will meet at Citibank, Transitown Plaza at 7:00 a.m. to join the G.O.S. at the Braddock Bay park shelter at 9:30 a.m.

- May 11-12: Presque Isle and Pymatuning Weekend; joint trip with Buffalo Audubon Society. Saturday at Presque Isle near Erie, PA; Saturday dinner at Linesville, PA; Sunday at Pymatuning Reservoir. Call Mary Saville (662-5215) for reservations. NOTE: Presque Isle, 80 miles from Buffalo can be the warbler hot spot at this time. Even a 1-day trip there is easy and you might meet Dave Freeland and the Pittsburgh group.
- May 12: Tifft Farm Nature Preserve & Times Beach. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in Tifft Farm parking lot. This is a half-day outing for warblers and other migrants.
- May 19: May Bird Count. Compiler to be announced.
- May 26: Canadian Shore of Lake Erie for shorebirds. Leaders: Dave Cooper (284-4118) and Art Schaffner (835-7589). We will meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Vermont & Busti entrance to the Peace Bridge or at 7:15 a.m. at the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge on the Canadian side.
- June 16: Tentative blockbusting date for the Breeding Bird Atlas.

For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690; Grand Island, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, New York 14304.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Pat Cordaro (printing), Shirley Wake (typing),
Marie Wendling (index).

Editorial Board: Wavel Barber, Marian Dornhaffer,
Bradley Lown, Julia Wells.

EDITOR:

Robert A. Klips
819 Auburn Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY

MAY 31 1985

VOLUME 51

MARCH 1985

ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

NUMBER 3

THE MONTH

After a decidedly wintry first ten days with below average temperatures, frequent light snowfall and heavy snow south of Buffalo on the 7th, the weather in February took a mild turn which persisted until month's end. A high temperature for the date of 41° (F) recorded on February 11th brought an end to a 34 day period of below freezing weather on the Niagara Frontier and the first migrant waterfowl, including Black Ducks, Northern Pintails and Red-breasted Mergansers, were reported from Dunkirk Harbor on the 16th. Three Tundra Swans seen on the ice at Beaver Island State Park on that date were also presumed to be migrants and on February 19th, a lone grackle seen in the Town of Tonawanda was hailed as the harbinger of the anticipated passerine migration. In any case, several hundred migrant Canada Geese arrived at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on February 22nd and by the 26th Don Endres estimated 4400 geese there. Endres also reported 54 Red-winged Blackbirds at a feeder in the Town of Alabama in Genesee County on February 21st. On the negative side, unseasonably warm temperatures ranging from 42° to 58° (F) between February 21st and 26th and heavy rainfall on the 23rd caused a rapid melting of the heavy snow cover in the northern and eastern suburbs of Buffalo and precipitated widespread flooding as ice jammed creeks overflowed resulting in heavy property damage in the affected areas. The average temperature for the month was 24.8° (F), a departure of 0.3° from the norm; precipitation measured 3.34 inches, mostly in the form of rain. Total snowfall in February measured 20.9 inches, 3.1 inches above average for the period. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Once again in February the effluence from the Niagara Mohawk Power Station warming the waters of Lake Erie in the Dunkirk Harbor in Chautauqua County made the location irresistible to waterfowl and other pelagic birds which in turn attracted many bird-watchers to the scene. The Laughing Gull, first discovered at the west

end of the harbor in January, remained there for the entire month in February. On the 5th, Olga and Art Rosche were eating lunch in a restaurant with a commanding view of the west end of the harbor and during their repast, took the opportunity to scan a flock of Buffleheads with their field glasses. They were pleasantly surprised to discover a Harlequin Duck swimming among the Buffleheads. The duck, an immature male, remained in the harbor for the rest of the month and it was seen by many observers. The harbor was also filled with many other kinds of waterfowl including 1050 Red-breasted Mergansers reported by Dave Gagne on February 17th and 120 Redheads seen by Art Schaffner and Alan Smith on the 20th. Dave Gagne also reported two Red-throated Loons there on the 10th and 17th. On the 3rd, Bob Andrie and his party saw 40 Horned Grebes and four Red-necked Grebes among the waterfowl congregated in the harbor. Other interesting waterfowl reported this month include an adult Mute Swan seen by Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter on the Niagara River at Chippawa, Ontario on February 10th. On February 3rd, Grace O'Dell found a wintering Tundra Swan on the river at the Fort Erie Marsh where it was subsequently seen during the following ten days by several observers.

A very early Turkey Vulture was seen by Don Endres over Sour Springs Road on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on February 25th. Over a period of two weeks at mid-month, an immature Bald Eagle was seen, both in flight and sitting on the ice of the Niagara River south of Niagara-on-the-Lake. Dave Gagne and Dave Dister found two wintering Common Snipe at Towerville in Chautauqua County on the 17th and Dick Collins reported five Purple Sandpipers among the rocks of the upper rapids at Niagara Falls on February 16th. The B.O.S. field trip on the 17th had an auspicious beginning when 28 Glaucous Gulls were counted on the ice near leads of open water in the north harbor at LaSalle Park in Buffalo. Later that day, an Iceland Gull was also seen at that location. Also on the 17th, Paul Hess counted 100 Greater Black-backed Gulls at the foot of Ontario Street in Buffalo.

Six Long-eared Owls were flushed from a pine grove on the Lake Road near Rock Point Provincial Park in Moulton Township, Ontario during the B.O.S. 'owl trip' lead by Blayne Farnan on February 17th. Later, the group found one Snowy Owl on the runway of the St. Catharines Airport.

One of the highlights of field observation this winter has been the numerous reports of Northern Horned Larks. On February 3rd, Dave Gagne and Dave Dister saw 150 larks of the sub-species Eremophila alpestris alpestris on the Van Buren Road in the Town of Pomfret in Chautauqua County. On the 7th, 85 birds of a flock of 100 larks on this road were of the northern sub-species and during the B.O.S. field trip on the 17th, a flock of 40 Northern Horned Larks was seen at Port Colborne, Ontario.

Gail and Delores Seamans reported a wintering flock of 250 to 300 robins at Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on February 9th.

February was unremarkable for winter finches. In addition to a few reports of Evening Grosbeaks visiting feeders in the Southern Tier counties, there was one record of a White-winged Crossbill, a single bird in the Village of Alfred in Allegany County on the 1st and Clarence Klingensmith saw two to four Red Crossbills in that village between the 2nd and the 22nd. There were a number of reports of

Lapland Longspurs, usually in the company of large flocks of Snow Buntings including one unverified record of 20 longspurs in a flock of 'several hundred' buntings in the Town of Oakfield in Genesee County on the 10th.

Finally, there were three unverified reports of wintering Chipping Sparrows in our study area in February including two at a feeder on Pine Drive in Fredonia on February 5th; on the 11th, two Chipping Sparrows were seen at a feeder in the Village of Hamburg and two at a feeder in the Town of Lancaster.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY 14217

* * * * *

FEBRUARY NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

<u>Red-throated Loon</u>	Feb.	15	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	"	16,20	2,2 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner et al
Common Loon	"	10	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Collins
	"	10,17	1,1 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne
	"	13-26	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher et al
	"	16,20	2,2 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner, Smith
	"	20	1 Dunkirk Harbor	A. & O. Rosche
Pied-billed Grebe	"	10	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Collins
	"	16,20	4,2 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner et al
	"	26 F	10 Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers
Horned Grebe	"	3	40 Dunkirk Harbor	Andrle et al
	"	10	75 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne
	"	16,20	40+,25+ Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner et al
	"	23	22 Dunkirk Harbor	Hess
Red-necked Grebe	"	3	4 Dunkirk Harbor	Andrle et al
Great Blue Heron	"	16	1 Belmont	Burtons
*Tundra Swan	"	3	1 Ft. Erie, Ont.	O'Dell
	"	10	1 Ft. Erie, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	28 F	1 Kiantone	Dister
Mute Swan	"	10	1 Chippawa, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
Canada Goose	"	19	20 Tonawanda	Hess
	"	23 F	44 over Amity Lake	Pitzrick

Canada Goose	Feb.	23 F	48 Dunkirk	Hess
(cont.)	"	24	100 Iroquois NWR	Collins
	"	26	4400 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	26	25 Beaver Meadow WR	O. Rosche
Amer. Black Duck	"	10 F, 17	3, 5 Town of Amity	Pitzricks
	"	12	21 over Pomfret	Mosher
Northern Pintail	"	9-28	1-2 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher et al
	"	10	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Collins
	"	16, 20	2, 2 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner et al
	"	24 F	6 Iroquois NWR	Collins
	"	24 F, 26	6, 53 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Gadwall	"	3	4 Dunkirk Harbor	Andrle et al
	"	10	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Collins
	"	16, 20	2, 4 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner et al
	"	16	2 Niagara Falls	Collins
	"	26 F	2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	26 F	10 Dunkirk	Mosher
American Wigeon	"	26 F	5 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	28	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	"	28	4 Poland	Gagne
Redhead	"	16 F, 20	80, 120 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner et al
	"	19	1 Springville	O'Dell
*Ring-necked Duck	"	15 F, 19, 28	1, 2, 6 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	"	16, 20	1, 1 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner et al
	"	17	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Dister
Lesser Scaup	"	16 F, 20	5, 5 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner et al
King Eider	"	3	1 Niagara-on-the-Lake	B.O.S. (Brock)
	"	16	2 Niagara-on-the-Lake	Collins
*Harlequin Duck	"	5	1 Dunkirk Harbor	A.&O. Rosche et al
	"	5, 6, 9, 13	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher et al
	"	7, 10, 17	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Dister
	"	10	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Collins
	"	16	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner, Walker
White-w. Scoter	"	5, 14	3 LaSalle Pk., Bflo.	Andrle et al
	"	6-26	1-8 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher et al
	"	10	15 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne
	"	16, 20	1, 6 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner et al
	"	20	3 LaSalle Pk., Bflo.	Schaffner, Smith
	"	24	6 Youngstown	ISNOS (Klabunde)
Bufflehead	"	16 F	200 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner, Walker
Hooded Merganser	"	14-28	1-2 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher et al
	"	17	3 Thorold, Ont.	B.O.S. (Farnan)
	"	26	2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Common Merganser	"	10	2 Town of Amity	Pitzricks
	"	13, 16	7, 2 Town of Amity	Burtens
*Turkey Vulture	"	25 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
*Bald Eagle	"	17	1 Lower Niagara River	B.O.S. (Farnan)
		(immature)		
Northern Harrier	"	9	1 Town of Angelica	C. Klingensmith
	"	17	1 St. Catharine's, Ont.	B.O.S. (Farnan)

Sharp-sh. Hawk	Feb. 6,11,14	1,1,1	Town of Alabama	Endres
"	" 7	1	Town of Pomfret (f)	Moshers
"	" 7,23	1,1	Darien (f)	Harper
"	" 9,20	1,1	Wales	O. Rosche
"	" 18	1	Orchard Park	O'Dell
"	" 24	1	Youngstown	Collins
Cooper's Hawk	" 5	1	Belmont	Burtons
"	" 7	1	Darien (f)	Harper
"	" 7	1	Wales	O. Rosche
"	" 8	1	Orchard Park	Saville
"	" 8	1	Town of Alabama (f)	Endres
Northern Goshawk	" 20	1	Dunkirk	Schaffner, Smith
Rough-leg. Hawk	" 3	1	Town of Amity	Burtons
"	" 9	1	Town of Angelica	C. Klingensmith
"	" 9-17	1	Town of Angelica	Burtons, Jordan
"	" 16	1	Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
American Coot	" 16,20	32,46	Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner et al
"	" 24 F,28	1	Celoron	Gagne
"	" 26	2	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Killdeer	" 17 F	1	Town of Stockton	Gagne, Dister
"	" 17 F	1	Towerville	Gagne, Dister
Purple Sandpiper	" 16	5	Niagara Falls	Collins
Laughing Gull	" 3	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Andrle et al
"	" 10	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Collins, Zebehazy
"	" 16	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner, Walker
Little Gull	" 3	3	Lower Niagara River	B.O.S. (Brock)
Iceland Gull	" 3	1	Lower Niagara River	B.O.S. (Brock)
"	" 10	1	Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
Glaucous Gull	" 3	4	Lower Niagara River	B.O.S. (Brock)
"	" 5,14	2	LaSalle Pk., Bflo.	Andrle et al
"	" 17	28	LaSalle Pk., Bflo.	B.O.S. (Barbers)
"	" 20	1	LaSalle Pk., Bflo.	Schaffner, Smith
E. Screech Owl	" 17	1	Ft. Erie, Ont.	B.O.S. (Farnan)
		(in barn, red phase)		
Snowy Owl	" 17	1	St. Catharine's, Ont.	B.O.S. (Farnan)
Long-eared Owl	" 17	6	Tnsp. of Moulton, Ont	B.O.S. (Farnan)
Short-eared Owl	" 17	1	Sherkston, Ont.	B.O.S. (Farnan)
Belted Kingfisher	" 10	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Collins
"	" 13	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	" 16	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner, Walker
"	" 23	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Hess
*Red-headed Wdpkr.	" 2	1	Lancaster	Chilton
"	" 10	1	Canadaway Cr. N.S.	Collins
"	" 13,18,26	2,1,1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	" 21	1	Youngstown	Klabunde
"	" 24	2	Youngstown	ISNOS (Klabunde)
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	" 1-28	1	Town of Alabama (f)	Endres
"	" 13,18,26	3,4,3	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	" 1-15	1	Lewiston (f)	Klabunde

Northern Flicker	Feb.	3	1	Dunkirk	Andrle et al
"	"	13,18,26	2,2,2	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	20	1	Town of Pomfret	Schaffner, Smith
"	"	21	2	Lake Ont. Plain	Klabunde
"	"	24	5	Youngstown	ISNOS (Klabunde)
"	"	24	3	Ft. Niagara S.P.	Collins
Horned Lark	"	3	150	Town of Pomfret	Gagne
<u>E. a. alpestris</u>	"	16	5	Town of Pomfret	Schaffner, Walker
"	"	17	40	Port Colborne, Ont.	B.O.S. (Farnan)
"	"	19	5	Fentonville	Elderkin
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-21,28	2-3	Town of Pomfret (f)	Moshers
"	"	2	2	Lewiston (f)	Cooper
"	"	21	1	Lake Ont. Plain	Klabunde
"	"	22,26,28	1,1,1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	28	1	Orchard Park	Saville
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	1,16	7,3	Alfred	Brooks
"	"	18	1	Orchard Park	O'Dell
Brown Creeper	"	1	2	Alfred	Brooks
"	"	6,7	1	Belmont	Burtons
"	"	11,21	1,1	Wales	O. Rosche
"	"	18	2	Orchard Park	O'Dell
"	"	24	1	Orchard Park	Saville
Winter Wren	"	11	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	1	3	Alfred	Brooks
"	"	18	8	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
American Robin	"	1,11,13	54,59,35	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	9	250-300	Iroquois NWR	G. & D. Seamans
"	"	20-28	2-49	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	21	145	Lake Ont. Plain	Klabunde
(Maximum counts for the month.)					
Northern Mockingbird	"	5,10,19	1	Lewiston	Klabunde
"	"	6-20	1	Kiantone	Elderkin
"	"	16	1	Sir Adam Beck Hydro	Collins
"	"	17	1	Lower Niagara River	B.O.S. (Brock)
"	"	21	6	Lake Ont. Plain	Klabunde
"	"	24	1	Youngstown	ISNOS (Klabunde)
"	"	24	1	Kiantone	Gagne
Cedar Waxwing	"	26,27	285+,200+	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Northern Shrike	"	3-17	1	Town of Stockton	Gagne et al
"	"	5,13,21	1,1,1	Town of Alabama	Endres
"	"	12,21	1	Town of Stockton	Mosher
"	"	16	1	Dunkirk	Schaffner
"	"	17	1	Redbird Corners	Gagne, Dister
"	"	17	1	Towerville	Gagne, Dister
"	"	19	1	Town of Alabama (f)	Endres
*Rufous-s. Towhee	"	10,18	1	Orchard Park	O'Dell
Wh.-cr. Sparrow	"	7	4	Town of Pomfret	Gagne
Lapland Longspur	"	3	8	Town of Oakfield	G. & D. Seamans
"	"	3,17	1	Town of Pomfret	Gagne
"	"	16	5	Town of Pomfret	Schaffner, Smith

Lapland Longspur	Feb.	16	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
(cont.)	"	17	2 Tifft Farm N.P.	Saville, Becker
Snow Bunting	"	3	600 Town of Pomfret	Gagne
	"	9,16	200,150 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
	"	10	30 Town of Alabama	Hess
	"	13,15	30,20 Town of Sheldon	O. Rosche
	"	16	150+ Town of Pomfret	Schaffner, Walker
	"	16	2 Centerville	Burtons
	"	17	200 Tifft Farm N.P.	Saville, Becker
	"	17	75 Town of Pomfret	Moshers
Red-w. Blackbird	"	1	25 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	1-20	1 Alfred	C. Klingensmith
	"	1-21	1-54 Town of Alabama (f)	Endres
	"	1-31	6+ Orchard Park	O'Dell
	"	3	10 Erie Peat Rd., Ont.	O'Dell
	"	18 F	1 Amherst	Schaffner
	"	19	1 Busti	Elderkin
Rusty Blackbird	"	3	6 Erie Peat Rd., Ont.	O'Dell
Common Grackle	"	3	1 Town of Alabama (f)	Endres
	"	19 F	1 Buffalo	Schaffner
	"	24	6 Town of Alabama	Endres
Brown-h. Cowbird	"	1-31	30+ Orchard Park	O'Dell
	"	3	8 Erie Peat Rd., Ont.	O'Dell
	"	8	20 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	21 F	2 Lake Ont. Plain	Klabunde
	"	22	22 Darien (f)	Harper
Purple Finch	"	1	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	1-28	12-40 Belmont	Burtons
	"	1-28	1-10 Darien (f)	Harper
	"	1-28	1-11 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	2	1 Alfred	C. Klingensmith
	"	2	6 Kiantone	Elderkin
	"	5,17-28	8 Lewiston (f)	Klabunde
	"	7,8,14	4,4,1 Town of Pomfret (f)	Moshers
	"	7-28	1-40 Wales (f)	O. Rosche
	"	10-28	3 Orchard Park	Saville
*Red Crossbill	"	2,12,16,22	2,2,2,4 Alfred	C. Klingensmith
*White-w. Crossbill	"	1	1 Alfred	Brooks
Evening Grosbeak	"	1-28	1-31 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	2,5,15,22	2,3,1,10 Alfred	C. Klingensmith

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded. 103

Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue. 9

Total for the year 112

* * * * *

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

Report of Ontario Owl Outing

The Buffalo Ornithological Society owes a debt of gratitude to two of our Canadian Members, Blayne Farnan and Drew Campbell. On February 17, 1985, Blayne and Drew conducted the B.O.S. annual owl trip and led 18 to 20 participants to a red phase Eastern Screech-Owl sitting on a beam in a barn 15 feet or less from the observers. (Only two of the group had ever seen a red phase Screech Owl before.)

From there to another farmyard, where a Short-eared Owl came cruising in front of the entourage, flew up and down over a field just across the fence from our group, tipping and soaring, displaying the obscure field marks often not seen as Short-eared Owls hunt over the "back forty." The owl then sat on a fence post posing while scopes were focused and all had a chance for a good view.

A drive to Lowbanks and a small woodlot where nearly everyone had near-by glimpses or good views of at least one of the seven Long-eared Owls that had been resting in the conifers.

At the airport at St. Catharines, Blayne set up his scope, squinted and said "there it is!" A posing and preening Snowy Owl was near a snow pile where it stayed while the group drove to the other end of the airport, much nearer than before. The owl gave the photographers and studiers a variety of poses and views.

Word spread that an immature Bald Eagle had been seen repeatedly during the past week on the ice flows in the Niagara River. We drove to an overlook where the eagle was likely to be seen and found it had flown upstream just before we arrived. Later Blayne and Drew found the eagle about a mile away from the overlook, it was sitting in a tree being harrassed by Red-tailed Hawks.

Wavel Barber

* * * * *

NESTING RECORDS -- 1984

(Part II, Continued from Vol. 50, No. 12)

Vivian Mills Pitzrick

E. Bluebird SUMMARY: 21 pairs of adults fledged 89 yg. 38 nestings with 23 successful. Lot to: n. being deserted, 2 n.; Tree Swallows, 5 n.; weather, 3 n.; predation, 2 n.; Raccoon, 2 n.; House Wrens, 1 n. 13 pairs nested twice and 2 pair nested three times.

E. Bluebird A First Nesting. 2 mi. SE of Belmont, Riley Camp Rd., at 42°13' Long. 78°00', El. 1500 ft., hay field, n. box on Utility pole 5 ft. up. 4 Apr. building. 16 Apr. Ads. present. 1 May n. deserted.

- E. Bluebird A Second Nesting. ibid. Riley Rd., El. 1480 ft. Utility pole 5 ft. up. 4,9,17 May 5 e., Ad. on Rotenoned n. 24 May, 1,7 June 5 yg. 14 June NEI Ads. with yg. nearby. No blowfly larvae.
- E. Bluebird B Saunders Rd. above Flints Br. before Amity Lake dam. El. 1660 ft. on utility pole 4.8 ft. up. Fallow field. 21 Apr. building. 27 Apr. no change, and 3 May Tree Swallows taking over.
- E. Bluebird C Kinglet Flats, 6 mi. N. of Scio, El. 1810 ft., fresh swamp, on sheathed pole 4 ft. up. 16 Apr. building. N. complete. 3,10 May n. deserted. First Nesting.
- E. Bluebird C Second Nesting. Kinglet Flats on metal pipe 4 ft. up. 31 May, 2,7 June Ads. near no e. 14,22 June 5 e., Rotenoned e. 30 June 5 yg. c. 4 days old. 7 July yg. gone. House Wren nest built on top of bluebird n.
- E. Bluebird D First Nesting. Amity L., Presutti, El. 1700 ft., sheathed post 4.8 ft. up. 4 Apr. n. complete. 11 May 2 e., 18,22 May 3 e. 29 May, 4 June 3 yg. (Rotenoned eggs, above. 15 June NEI 15 Blowfly larvae in n.)
- E. Bluebird D Second Nesting. Same box. 19 June building. 26 June 5 e., Ad. on. Rotenoned e. 4 July 4 e. 9,11,16 July 2 e. 2 yg. 23 July 2 yg. 28 July NEI but for 2 infertile e. No Blowfly larvae.
- E. Bluebird E Flints Br. 4.5 mi. N. of Scio, El. 1595 on metal post 4.5 ft. up. Box 30. 21 Apr. building. 1 June 3 e. Rotenoned n. 7 June 4 e. 15 June 1 e. 3 yg., 23 June 4 yg. 10 July NE, nest stirred up. 14 July Ads. with 4 yg. near box.
- E. Bluebird F--Box 31, Benthleys Bench, El. 1670 ft., on sheathed pole 5 ft. up. 21 Apr. Ads. at box, no n. 3 May building, Ad. on, no e. 11 May Tree Swallows have taken over. First Nesting. 4.5 mi. N. of Scio.
- E. Bluebird F--Box 42, Second Nesting (nearby), 4.5 mi. N. of Scio, El. 1680 ft., 4.3 ft. up on sheathed pole. 17 May 3 e. Ad. on Rotenoned n. 24 May 4 e. Ad. on. 2 June 4 yg. Ad. on. 15 June 4 yg. 23 June NEI Ads. with yg. nearby.
- E. Bluebird F--Box 42, ibid. Third Nesting. 2 July 2 e. 10 July 4 e., Rotenoned n. Ad. on. 18,28 July 4 yg. 4 Aug. NEI Ads. near, agitated. 2 Blowfly larvae in n.
- E. Bluebird G--Box 11, First Nesting. Saunders Plot, El. 1720 ft. on sheathed post 5 ft. up. 6 Apr. building. 20 Apr. no e. 27 Apr. 5 e., Rotenoned n. Ad. on. 2 May 5 e. Ad. on. Put raccoon guard over hole. 9 May 5 e. ad. on. 15,23,30 May 5 yg. in n. (On last date yg.'s wings out of sheath.) 6 June 4 dead yg. in n. (12 Blowfly larvae or pupae in n.) Cold wet weather must have killed yg.
- E. Bluebird G--Box 41, Second Nesting (nearby), El. 1785 ft., Saunders P. on sheathed pole 3 ft. up. June 6 building. 16 June 5 e. Ad. on Rotenoned n. 29 June 5 yg. Raccoon claw marks on box. Put raccoon guard over hole. 6 July 5 yg. 12 July 2 yg. + 2 dead yg. in box, wings nearly out of sheath. 9 Blowfly larvae. Changed n. material. 19 July 2 yg., fully feathered. 26 July NEI. Ads. nearby with yg.

- E. Bluebird H--Box 6, Amity L. on metal pole 4.5 ft. up, El. 1670 ft. 13 Apr. building. 5 May no e. 9 May 4 e. Ad. on. 16 May 5 e., cold. Rotenoned e. 20 May 5 e., warm. 30 May, 3 June, 7 June 5 yg. 14 June NEI. 11 Blowfly larvae or pupae in n. First Nesting.
- E. Bluebird H--Box 6, ibid. Second Nesting. 20 June Ads. near. N. complete. 24 June 2 e. Rotenoned e. 8 July 5 yg. Ad. on. Hung mousetrap outside box (no tongue) on front next hole. House Sparrows nearby. Ad. went back on. 12, 15 July 5 yg., eyes closed (photographed). 19 July 5 yg. Ad. on, eyes of yg. are open. Took photo. 28 July 5 yg. left box today. 36 Blowfly larvae in n.
- E. Bluebird I--Box 59, Saunders Run, Amity L., First Nesting. El. 1710 ft. on sheathed pole 4.0 ft. up. 16 Apr. n. complete. 27 Apr. 5 e. Rotenoned e. 9 May 3 e. (2 e. gone). 14, 24 May 3 yg. 30 May NEI Ads. with yg. nearby.
- E. Bluebird I--Box 59, ibid. Second Nesting. 7 June Male on box. 14 June 4 e., Rotenoned n. 22 June 5 e., warm. 28 June 2 e. 2 yg. 2 July 3 yg., other e. gone. 9 July 3 yg. showing color. 17 July NEI, no Blowfly larvae.
- E. Bluebird J--Box 63, First Nesting, opp. dam Amity L. El. 1680 ft. on utility pole 4.5 ft. up. 21 Apr. n. complete. 27 Apr. 5 e., rotenoned n. 9 May 5 e. Ad. on. 14, 22 May, 1 June 5 yg. 4 June NEI, Ads. with yg. near. 30 Blowfly larvae or pupae in and under n.
- E. Bluebird J--Box 63, Second Nesting, ibid. 15 June new n. well started. 18 June 2 e. rotenoned n. 23, 28 June 4 e., warm. 9 July 1 e. 3 yg. 17 July 3 yg. 24 July NEI. Broken egg shell in n. No blowfly larvae.
- E. Bluebird K--Box 64, Withey First Nesting. 2 mi. E. of Belmont, Lat. $42^{\circ}14'$, Long. $77^{\circ}59'$, El. 1535 ft., hay field, grass, on utility pole 5 ft. up. 25 Apr. n. complete. 3 May 1 e. rotenoned n. 10 May 4 e., cold. 20, 31 May 4 e., cold. Nest deserted. (Weather?--cold, wet.) Cleaned out box.
- E. Bluebird K--Box 64, ibid. Second Nesting. 7 June new n. started. 13 June 2 e. rotenoned n. 22 June 5 e. Ad. on. 30 June, 7 July 5 yg. 10 July 5 yg., put mouse trap (no tongue) on box door. House Sparrows in area. 13 July 5 yg., well feathered. 21 July NEI. 34 Blowfly larvae or pupae in n.
- E. Bluebird L--Box 18, Hotchkiss, 4 mi. N. of Scio. El. 1540 ft. on metal pole 4.5 ft. up. First Nesting. 9 May 5 e., warm Rotenoned n. 24 May 3 e., cold, buried; new n. built on top with 1 e. in it. Cold, wet weather must have spoiled e.
- E. Bluebird L--Box 18, ibid. Second Nesting. 24 May 1 e. in n. built over first nesting. 1 June 5 e., warm. Rotenoned n. 15 June 5 yg. 2 July NEI, Ads. near with yg. 6 Blowfly pupae in n.
- E. Bluebird M--Box 61, First Nesting, Plumbottom, RR sign. 3 mi. N. of Scio, Lat. $42^{\circ}12'$, Long. $78^{\circ}00'$, El. 1435 ft. between hay field and cultivated field on utility pole 5 ft. up. 4 May n. complete. 9 May 3 e. 17 May 5 e., rotenoned e. 24 May 5 e. Ad. on. 1, 7 June 5 yg. 14 June NEI, no blowfly larvae.

- E. Bluebird M--Box 61, ibid. Second Nesting. 2 July 1 e. 10 July 4 e., rotenoned n. 17 July 4 e., warm. 24,31 July 4 yg. 7 Aug. NEI. No blowfly larvae. Many pits from choke cherries in n.
- E. Bluebird N--Box 33, First Nesting, Plumbottom, 3.5 mi. N. of Scio, Lat. 42°12', Long. 78°00', cultivated field on utility pole 5 ft. up. 4 May n. complete. Ads. near, agitated. No e. 9 May Ad. near, no e. 14 May n. taken over by Tree Swallows.
- E. Bluebird N--Box 66, Second Nesting. Riley-Camp Rd., 2 mi. SE of Belmont, Lat. 42°13', Long. 78°00', El. 1500 ft. (not far from first nesting) on utility pole 5 ft. up. 17 May 1 e., rotenoned n. 24 May, 1 June 5 e. Ad. on. 7,14,20 June 5 yg. 23 June NEI. 34 Blowfly larvae in n.
- E. Bluebird O--Box 17, Saunders Camp, fallow field, on sheathed pole 4 ft. up, El. 1780 ft., 5.5 mi. N. of Scio. 15 May 2 e., rotenoned e. 24,30 May 5 eggs. 6,16 June 5 yg. 22 June NEI, Ads. near with yg. 18 Blowfly larvae in n.
- E. Bluebird P--Box 29, Browns Triangle, First Nesting, on sheathed pole 5 ft. up. 11 May building, n. nearly complete. 16 May n. deserted. El. 1700 ft.
- E. Bluebird P--Box 13, beside box above, on sheathed pole 3.3 ft. up. Second Nesting. El. 1700 ft. 16 May 1 e. Ad. on. Rotenoned n. 20 June 4 e. Ad. on. 29 June 5 e., cold and buried under n. of Tree Swallows (which was lost to predation).
- E. Bluebird P--Box 34, Third Nesting, Fantauzzo, (near first boxes), El. 1620 ft., usual fallow field, dogwood-Crataegus, on sheathed pole 4.6 ft. up. 5 June 1 e. Rotenoned n. 19 June 4 e., cold. Feathers of Ad. Bluebird in n. Fresh claw marks on box. 'Coon guard already on box. (The 'coon probably caught the fluttering bird already in the box.)
- E. Bluebird Q--Box, Wesche's, Wadsworth Hill, 3.5 mi. NE of Scio, Lat. 42°13', Long. 77°56', El. 2229 ft., fallow fields, on stump fence 3.5 ft. up. First Nesting. 2,14 June 4 e., rotenoned n. Eggs warm. 24 June NE damaged.
- E. Bluebird Q--Wesche box above ibid. Second Nesting. 7 July 3 e., rotenoned e. 13 July 3 e., warm. 20 July 3 yg. 2 days old. 28 July n. empty -- robbed. Lost to predation.
- E. Bluebird R--John Sheffield, near house 6 mi. NE of Scio, Wadsworth Hill, Lat. 42°14', Long. 77°54', El. 2260 ft., woodsey lawn area, poplar-grass, on utility pole 4 ft. up. 27 Apr. Ad. on box. (Can't see into box.) 2 June Male defending box from Tree Swallows. 14 June ♀ carrying food into box. 25 June Ads. with at least 1 yg. near box.
- E. Bluebird S--Box 54, Grasshopper Flats, First Nesting. 6.5 mi. N. of Scio, Lat. 42°14', Long 77°59', El. 1710 ft., usual fallow field, on utility pole 5 ft. up. 3 May 1 e. Ad. on, rotenoned n. 10,17 May 5 e., warm or Ad. on. 24,31 May 5 yg. 7 June NEI, Ads. near with yg. 41 Blowfly larvae and/or pupae.

E. Bluebird S--Box 54, ibid. Second Nesting. 22 June 1 e., rotenoned n. 30 June 4 e., warm. 7 July 3 e., 1 yg. 13,21 July 3 yg. (slow in developing). 28 July NEI. Many wild cherry pits in n. 6 Blowfly larvae.

E. Bluebird T--Kathy Brown, Amity L. El. 1665 ft. on metal pipe 4 ft. up. 17 June 1 e., rotenoned n. 18 June 3 e., mended box. 23,28 June 5 e. Ad. on or e. warm. 9 July 2 e., 2 yg. 17 July 2 yg. 24 July NEI but for 2 infertile e. 9 Blowfly larvae in n.

E. Bluebird U--Sheffield Plantation, near Sheffield box above but a different pair of Ads. (This pair was building while the others were feeding yg. in box above.) El. 2220 ft., 6 mi. NE of Scio, on wooden pole (unsheathed) 4.5 ft. up. 2 June building. 25 June Ad. on, no e., male at box, too. 7 July 5 e., rotenoned n., Ad. on. 13 July 5 e. 20 July 2 e., 3 yg. 28 July 1 e., 4 yg., wings breaking sheaths. 7 Aug. n. empty, damaged, fresh raccoon scratches on box. Bluebird feathers stuck to box. 1 broken eggshell in box. Lost to Raccoon.

Hermit Thrush -- Hood Hill 5 mi. N. of Scio, Lat. $42^{\circ}13'$, Long. $77^{\circ}59'$, El. 2000 ft. in deciduous woods: Red Oak-Maple, on ground under fern among grass stems. 14 July 3 e., Ad. on. Found by Raymond Pitzrick, Belmont, NY at 9:15 a.m.d.t. Bright brown tail, olive-gray back and head. Raised and lowered tail many times after it left n. and perched. 19 July 3 e., dry. No Ad. in evidence. 23 July 2 e., Ad. on. Ad. sat tight until I was 4 ft. from n. Never went to n. but checked with mirror on telescopic rod. 1 Aug. n. empty--robbed. Lost to predation.

Am. Robin -- 54 Nestings.

Gray Catbird -- 10 Nestings: 2 Corbin Hill, 1 T/Angelica, 1 Bentleys B., 1 Saunders Camp (SPe), 2 Fantauzzo; first e. 26 May. 3 successful fledged: 1 yg., 4 yg., 4 yg., respectively. 2 lost to predation. 2 outcome unknown because not revisited. Also: 1 Kinglet Flats, 1 Terrace Amity L., 1 State Land; of these: 1 fledged 4 yg., 2 lost to predation.

Brown Thrasher -- 3 Nestings: Corbin Hill, Bentleys B., Irish Settlement Plant. All successful, fledging at least 5 yg. 1st yg. hatched 15 June.

Cedar Waxwing -- 41 Nestings. 6 successful produced 25 yg. 17 lost to predation. 6 outcome unknown because not revisited. 1 lost to weather. 2 deserted. 8 incomplete as of 31 Aug.

European Starling -- Tupper Lake Village, Lat. $44^{\circ}11'$, Long. $74^{\circ}28'$, El. 1557 ft., in grassy dooryard, Birch-grass, in cavity in Yellow Birch 7 ft. up, St. Lawrence County. 27 May Ad. feeding yg. in n. Outcome unknown because not revisited.

European Starling -- 11 Nestings (Allegany County).

Yellow Warbler -- 21 Nestings. 8 successful, produced 34 yg. 3 outcome unknown, not revisited. 4 lost to predation. 3 deserted. 2 moved by Ads. 1 lost to weather. 2 n. parasited by 1 cowbird e: one cowbird egg was infertile, and warblers deserted the other n. after cowbird e. was deposited. 1 Yellow Warbler e. was infertile.

N. Cardinal -- Corbin Hill, 2 mi. SW of Belmont, Lat. $42^{\circ}11'$, Long. $78^{\circ}03'$, El. 1750 ft., in brushy pasture, Crataegus-goldenrod, in Crataegus 3.6 ft. up. 25 July 2 e., Ad. on. 3 Aug. 2 e., Ad. on. 13 Aug. n. empty--robbed.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak -- Amity L. (Grantiers) in deciduous woods: maple-poplar, in Blue Beech 17 ft. up. 4 June building. 18,28 June Ad. on (can't see into n). 9 July NEI.

Rose breasted Grosbeak -- Angelica Twp. (opp. Herdman Rd.), 1 mi. S of Angelica, Lat. $42^{\circ}17'$, Long. $77^{\circ}59'$, El. 1700 ft. in fallow field: Buckthorn-goldenrod, in Crataegus 5.6 ft. up. 27 June 3 yg., Ad. on--male on n. No further visits.

Indigo Bunting -- Saunders Plot (N of twin maples 75 ft.), El. 1810 ft., fallow field: dogwood-Crataegus, in Crataegus 1.5 ft. up. 6 June Ad. on, no e. 16 June 3 e., Ad. on, also 1 cowbird e., incubated for some time which I removed. 29 June 3 yg. about 4 days old. 6 July NEI.

Rufous-sided Towhee -- Bentleys Bench, 4.5 mi. N of Scio, El. 1680 ft. (E of Box 31 c. 100 ft.), usual fallow field: Crataegus-dogwood, on ground at base of Crataegus. 23 June building. 2 July 1 e., Ad. on. 10 July 2 e., Ad. on. 18 July 1 e., 1 yg., Ad. on, yg.'s wings out of sheath. 28 July NEI, no e. in n.

Chipping Sparrow -- 23 Nestings.

Field Sparrow -- 9 Nestings.

Song Sparrow -- 11 Nestings.

Red-winged Blackbird -- 11 Nestings.

Com. Grackle -- 5 Colonies, 3 single n.

Brown-headed Cowbird -- 7 n. parasited: 4 E. Phoebe, 1 Indigo Bunting, 1 Yellow Warbler, 1 Am. Goldfinch.

N. Oriole (Baltimore) -- 3 Nestings. 2 successful. 1 outcome unknown because not revisited.

Am. Goldfinch -- 71 Nestings. 20 successful produced at least 91 yg. Lost to: predation 18; desertion 3; weather 1; infertile eggs 1 (4 e.). Unknown because not revisited: 13. Incomplete as of 31 Aug.: 15.

House Sparrow -- 11 Nestings.

Amity Lake (Allegany County)
Belmont, New York 14813

* * * * *

Strange Encounter

The call was early Saturday morning in February. "I think we have an Oregon Junco in our feeder. Will you come out and take a look?" Barb Walker and I headed through the snow for Collins and the Sutton home. Just outside their window on the ground and in feeders supported by the top of a dead maple Joe had stuck there, we saw in quick succession not only an adult and a possible juvenile "Oregon" among the other Dark-eyed Juncos, but also Tree Sparrows, Chickadees, a pair of Cardinals, a pair of Hairy Woodpeckers and a Mourning Dove. Joe has Bluebird houses and Wood Duck nest boxes ready for the time when spring melts the ice on the pond in front of the house.

While we watched the activity outside the window, he told us about a most unusual experience. He was hiking the trail through his woods when he saw several Ruffed Grouse in front of him. He hurried to the house for his wife, Karen, and some feed, and returned. All the birds scattered but one, and as Joe knelt and held out his hand with grain in it, the bird approached, hesitantly at first, but finally eating its fill. Fluttering to the top of Joe's stocking-capped head, it perched there for a minute before taking off into the woods.

The Suttons say they are just beginners, but the 1,000 pounds of feed they used last year suggest that like the rest of us, they are really hooked.

Marian Dornhaffer

(Editor's Note: The Oregon Junco is a western race of the Dark-eyed Junco which, before 1972, was regarded as a separate species by the American Ornithologists' Union.)

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MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

May 22: Fish and Wildlife Update. Walt Klabunde. Open discussion on Research Project for future study.

June 12: Picnic - Old Fort Erie Park. 6:00 p.m. Bring supper.

For further information, contact Barbara Walker, Program Committee Chairman, (649-1241, Hamburg, N.Y.).

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FIELD TRIPS

These trips take most of the day so a lunch should be brought.

- May 19: May Bird Count. Compiler to be announced.
- May 26: Canadian Shore of Lake Erie for shorebirds. Leaders: Dave Cooper (284-4118) and Art Schaffner (335-7589). We will meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Vermont & Busti entrance to the Peace Bridge or at 7:15 a.m. at the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge on the Canadian side.
- June 16: Tentative blockbusting date for the Breeding Bird Atlas.

For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690; Grand Island, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, New York 14304.

- CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120
- BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.
- SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$10.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.
- ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Pat Cordaro (printing), Shirley Wake (typing)
Editorial Board: Wavel Barber, Marian Dornhaffer,
Bradley Lown, Julia Wells.
- EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
819 Auburn Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

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THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY
THE
BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.
BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 51 JUL 18 1985 APRIL 1985 NUMBER 4
ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

THE MONTH

March began on a mild note and the month was remarkably free of the weather disturbances and extreme temperature fluctuation which frequently beset us at this season. The average temperature for the period was 35.6°(F), 2.6° above normal. The high temperature for the month, 71°(F) recorded on March 27th, tied a record for the date. Precipitation measured 4.42 inches, 1.45 inches above average for the period with snowfall totaling only 6.3 inches, mostly in an accumulation of 2.9 inches on March 4th. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

A series of low barometer readings in March preceded weather fronts giving impetus to a steady passage of migrants through our study area this month. The influx of waterfowl brought many reports of ducks, swans, and geese from wetlands in all parts of the Niagara Frontier region. The maximum count of Canada Geese in the Oak Orchard area did not exceed 40,000 birds at any time during March but they were observed literally everywhere where fields of unharvested corn or winter wheat provided forage for them away from the traditional resting areas such as the Cayuga Pool at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge in Genesee County or at Stafford's Pond at the Oak Orchard Wildlife Management Area in Orleans County. This dispersal makes it extremely difficult to make an accurate count or compare numbers with previous years. Unusually large flocks of Tundra Swans, estimated at between 190 to 210 birds were observed in the sinks in the Town of Newstead in Erie County and at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge during the first week of March. Later in the month, large flocks of these swans were observed in Chautauqua and southern Cattaraugus counties. Dave Gagne counted 650 swans at the Swamp Road sinks in the Town of Randolph on March 21st and Dave Dister saw 95 at the Riverside

Marsh in the Town of Kiantone in Chautauqua County on the 5th. On March 12th, Dister and Gagne identified a sub-adult Mute Swan among the Tundra Swans in a flooded field on Riverside Road in the Town of Kiantone, the bird being easily identified by its curved neck and its orange bill with a small knob angled downward. This swan remained at the location for the rest of the month.

On March 1st, Don Endres reported the first Snow Geese of the season, three white-phase birds at the Cayuga Pool at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. On the 10th he identified four white-phase birds and one "blue morph" of this species at that location. Willie D'Anna saw a white-phase Snow Goose in Dunkirk Harbor on the 2nd and other single geese of this species were observed at sinks in the towns of Newstead, Pembroke, Darien and Randolph during the month. On March 9th, Willie D'Anna identified an immature white-fronted Goose of the "Greenland Race," Anser albi-frons flavirostris among 1000 Canada Geese at the Town of Newstead sinks. The orange bill, orange legs and greyish-white face of the goose were clearly seen. A short time later, D'Anna and Betsy Potter discovered four more white-fronted Geese among the hundreds of Canada Geese at the Cayuga Pool at the Iroquois Pool at the Iroquois Refuge. All four had the white frontal patch at the base of the bill and the irregular dark band across the belly, characteristic of adult birds of this species. As the bright sunlight at the time made an accurate determination of bill coloration difficult - all four geese had bills that appeared to be a pinkish orange - D'Anna hesitated to identify their race as either flavirostris (orange bill) or A.a. frontalis (pink bill). Bruce Duncan writes that eight white-fronted Geese were seen on the Grand River just north of Cayuga Township and the boundary of the B.O.S. study area in Haldimand County, Ontario from March 13th through 18th.

The weekend of March 9th-10th saw the beginning of the spring raptor migration through the Niagara Frontier. In anticipation of this event, observers gathered at the lookout on the Old Lake Shore Road in the Town of Hamburg at Pinehurst on the 9th. Between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., eight Red-shouldered Hawks, 75 Red-tailed Hawks, a Northern Harrier and five Kestrels passed over as well as an estimated 4500 Red-winged Blackbird 600 Common Grackles and 450 Robins. Meanwhile, on that date, Frances Rew and Lois Buck went to their new vantage point for hawk watching on Forsythe Road athwart the New York State Thruway in the Town of Ripley in Chautauqua County. (See Prothonotary, vol. 50:5, pg.68, 1984). On southerly winds of 4-12 m.p.h. they counted 101 Red-tailed Hawks and two Red-shouldered Hawks, the first migrant raptors of the season at that location. On March 10th, Rew and Buck increased their tally at Forsythe Road to 136 Red-tails, 22 Red-shoulders as well as a single Turkey Vulture, two Rough-legged Hawks and three Northern Harriers. At Pinehurst on this date, observers counted four Turkey Vultures, 56 Red-tails, 20 Red-shoulders, one Cooper's and two Sharp-shinned Hawks among the birds passing over which also included another 4500 Red-winged Blackbirds, 1500 Grackles and 400 Robins. Farther northeast at Beamer Point Conservation Area on the Niagara Escarpment overlooking Grimsby, Ontario, on March 10th the observers for the Hawk Migration

Association of North America counted over 250 hawks including 185 Redtails, 45 Red-shoulders and a Northern Goshawk. Also of interest at that location on the 10th was the passage of three flocks of Common Redpolls, a species notably absent from the Niagara Frontier during the winter of 1984-85. Later in the month at Beamer Point, a Golden Eagle was seen on the 16th and a very early Osprey on March 27th. Also on the 27th, an adult Northern Goshawk and the first sizeable flight of Sharp-shinned Hawks, 32 birds, was observed over the Town of Ripley by Frances Rew and Lois Buck.

There were several reports of Bald Eagles in March, all but one of immature birds and mainly from the wetlands of the Oak Orchard area east of Buffalo. As all of the records from that area were of single birds with no morphological peculiarities or tags to identify them as individuals, it is uncertain how many immature Bald Eagles were actually in Oak Orchard in March. On March 23rd, Dick Collins observed a sub-adult Bald Eagle with a prominent yellow wing marker at the Ring Neck Marsh on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. Gail and Delores Seamans reported an immature Bald Eagle at Bason in Genesee County on the 30th and Bruce Duncan saw an immature bird at Decewsville in Cayuga Township, Ontario on the 15th.

Other interesting records received in March include a Red-throated Loon seen by Willie D'Anna, Betsy Potter and Dave Copper in Dunkirk Harbor on the 2nd. Gail and Delores Seamans reported an early Green-backed Heron in the Town of Batavia in Genesee County on March 30th. At least two Great Egrets spent ten days of the month in the Oak Orchard area where they were usually observed at the Cayuga Pool at the National Wildlife Refuge. These birds were first reported at that location by William Watson on March 23rd and were subsequently seen by a host of observers. The juvenile male Harlequin Duck, first seen in Dunkirk Harbor in February, was still there as late as March 29th when it was reported by Bob Sundell and Terry Mosher. On the 24th, Dave Gagne saw the immature male King Eider which, with a female King Eider has been wintering at the mouth of the Niagara River at Niagara-on-the-Lake. Also, an adult male Tufted Duck was seen just north of our study area in the harbor at Burlington, Ontario in March. The Laughing Gull which has been seen by most active field observers visiting Dunkirk Harbor since January, was last observed there by Frances Rew and Lois Buck on March 9th. They remarked on the gradual plumage change in this gull since Rew first saw it on January 30th; its mantle is noticeably a lighter grey, its primaries blacker and the head is becoming distinctly darker.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY 14217

MARCH NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates of localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York And Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f)- Indicates record from feeding station.

<u>Red-throated Loon</u>	March	2	1 Dunkirk Harbor	D'Anna et al
Common Loon	"	21F	1 Iroquois NWR	Chilton
Pied-billed Grebe	"	5,19,26	7,7,7 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher et al
	"	24	1 Tifft Farm NP	Hess
	"	27,28	1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	28	3 Iroquois NWR	Collins
Horned Grebe	"	17F	1 Town of Oakfield	Andrle et al
	"	27,29,30	4,1,6 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Great Blue Heron	"	13F	2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	25	3 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
*Great Egret	"	23F	2 Iroquois NWR	Watson
	"	26	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	27,30	1,1 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
	"	28	2 Iroquois NWR	Collins
	"	30	2 Iroquois NWR	Harper et al
	"	30	1 Tonawanda WMA	D'Anna, Potter
B.-cr. Night Heron	"	27F,28	1 Buffalo	O'Dell
Tundra Swan	"	1-3	14 Corfu	Harper
	"	1-30	67-210 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	21	650 Randolph	Gagne
<u>Mute Swan</u>	"	12-31	1 Burgeson W.S.	Dister, Gagne
* <u>Gr. White-fr. Goose</u>	"	9	1 Town of Newstead	D'Anna, Potter
	"	9	4 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
*Snow Goose	"	1F-13	1-5 Iroquois NWR	Endres
		(white morph)		
	"	2	1 Dunkirk	D'Anna et al.
		(4 white morph, 1 blue morph)		
	"	3-31	1 Randolph	Dister
	"	16	1 Darien	Barbers
		(blue morph)		
	"	24	1 Randolph	Rew, Buck
	"	28	1 Iroquois NWR	Collins
		(white morph)		

Volume 51, No. 4 "March Noteworthy Records" cont.

*Wood Duck	March	10F	1 Celoron	Gagne
"	"	18	5 Dunkirk	Mosher
*Green-w. Teal	"	10F	4 Burgeson W.S.	Gagne
*Blue-w. Teal	"	23F	3 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
"	"	27	1 Town of Ripley	Rew, Buck
"	"	27	1 Kent Switch	Rew, Buck
*No. Shoveler	"	10F	2 Randolph	Gagne
"	"	10F,30	2,8 Iroquois NWR	Chilton
"	"	28	2 Tonawanda WMA	Collins
"	"	30	19 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	31	1 Tonawanda WMA	Hess
Ring-necked Duck	"	8,13,22	3,136,135 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	27,29	16,3 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Lesser Scaup	"	10	3 Iroquois NWR	Endres
King Eider	"	24	1 Niag.-on-the-Lake	Gagne
Harlequin Duck	"	5	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
"	"	5,12	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Chilton
"	"	9	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
"	"	29	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Sundell
Oldsquaw	"	28F	1 Iroquois NWR	Collins
"	"	28F,29,30	1,24,8 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
White-w. Scoter	"	3	3 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Common Goldeneye	"	29F	8 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Bufflehead	"	27	5 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Ruddy Duck	"	26F,30	2,3,3 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	28	2 Iroquois NWR	Collins
Turkey Vulture	"	10	1 Town of Amity	Burtons
"	"	10,26,27	1,33,94 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
"	"	11	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Bald Eagle	"	1,7,8,22	1,1,1,1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	15	1 Decewsville, Ont.	Duncan
"	"	17	1 Tonawanda WMA	Andrle et al
"	"	23	1 Iroquois NWR	Collins
"	"	23	1 Oak Orchard WMA	D'Anna et al
"	"	30	1 Basom	G+D Seamans
		(all immatures)		
Northern Harrier	"	7	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	8-30	1-6 Town of Amity	Burtons
"	"	9,10,26,27	1,3,2,1 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
"	"	23	1 Town of Sheldon	Harper
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	3,12	1,1 Town of Wales	O. Rosche
"	"	4	1 Town of Alabama(f)	Endres
"	"	13,28	1,1 Kiantone	Gagne
"	"	23	1 Akron Falls	Hess
"	"	26,27	11,32 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
Cooper's Hawk	"	16	1 Town of Java	Harper
"	"	22	2 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	26,27	2,1 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
<u>Northern Goshawk</u>	"	27	1 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
		(adult)		

Volume 51, No. 4 "March Noteworthy Records" cont.

*Red-should. Hawk	March	9F,10,26,27	2,22,23,8	over Ripley Rew, Buck
"	"	10	1	Burgeson W.S. Gagne
"	"	17	1	Tonawanda WMA Andrie et
"	"	31	2	Mayville Gagne
Red-tailed Hawk	"	9F,10,26,27	101,136,85,61	over Ripley Rew, Buck
Rough-legged Hawk	"	10	1	Town of Angelica Burtons
"	"	10F,26,27	2,1,2	over Ripley Rew, Buck
"	"	21-30	1-2	Town of Amity Burtons
American Kestrel	"	9F,26,27	5,3,3	over Ripley Rew, Buck
Killdeer	"	6	1	Alfred Klingensmit
*Greater Yellowlegs	"	28F	2	Burgeson W.S. Gagne
"	"	28F	1	Poland Gagne
"	"	31	3	Iroquois NWR Hess
*Pectoral Sandpiper	"	27F	2	Somerset D'Anna, Potter
"	"	27F	6	Iroquois NWR D'Anna, Potter
Common Snipe	"	13	1	Kiantone Gagne
"	"	22	7	Kiantone Dister
"	"	24	11	Town of Dayton Rew, Buck
*Amer. Woodcock	"	8F	2	Burgeson W.S. Dister, Gagne
"	"	10-29	1-10	Town of Amity Pitzricks
"	"	13	2	Iroquois NWR Endres
"	"	14	1	Town of Pomfret Mosher
"	"	29	1	Pt. Gratiot Mosher, Sundell
"	"	29	3	Alfred Klingensmit
Laughing Gull	"	2	1	Dunkirk Harbor D'Anna e
"	"	4	1	Dunkirk Harbor Chilton
"	"	5	1	Dunkirk Harbor Mosher
Bonaparte's Gull	"	26F	1	Dunkirk Harbor Mosher
"	"	29	32	Dunkirk Harbor Mosher, Sundell
Snowy Owl	"	3	1	Town of Wheatfield D'Anna, Potter
Red-head Wdpr.	"	21	1	Batavia G+D Seamans
"	"	29	1	Pt. Gratiot Mosher, Sundell
"	"	31	2	Pt. Gratiot Gagne
Red-bellied Wdpr.	"	1-31	1-2	Town of Alabama(f) Endres
"	"	7	1	Iroquois NWR Dornhoffer Becker
"	"	16	1	Zoar Valley Becker, O'Dell
"	"	26	1	Randolph Gagne
"	"	28	1	Iroquois NWR Collins
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	"	22F	1	Town of Amity Pitzrick
"	"	31	1	Pt. Gratiot Gagne
Northern Flicker	"	3	1	Town of Wheatfield Hess
"	"	30F	1	Town of Amity Pitzrick
*Eastern Phoebe	"	28F	3	Iroquois NWR Collins
"	"	28,29	1,1	Town of Pomfret Mosher
*Tree Swallow	"	22F	6	Burgeson W.S. Dister
"	"	25,26,29	1,1,2	Amity Lake Pitzrick

Volume 51, No. 4 "March Noteworthy Records" cont.

Tufted Titmouse	March	1-31	1-4	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	3-21	1-2	Town of Pomfret(f)	Mosher
"	"	4	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Brown Creeper	"	13,20,23	1,1,1	Belmont	Burtons
"	"	21F,23,26,29	6,1,1,3	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Winter Wren	"	3	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	29F	1	Pt. Gratiot	Mosher, Sundell
"	"	29F	1	Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Sundell
"	"	31	1	Pt. Gratiot	Gagne
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	1-21	1-3	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	3	5	Burgeson W.S.	Gagne
"	"	23	1	Belmont	Burtons
"	"	25	1	Town of Wales	O. Rosche
"	"	28	3	Iroquois NWR	Collins
"	"	30	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
*Eastern Bluebird	"	1F	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick, Pre-sutti
"	"	9,21	1,2	Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	10	1	Town of Angelica	Burtons
"	"	10	1	Poland	Gagne
"	"	11-31	1-17	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	14	1	Randolph	Gagne
"	"	24	2	Town of Charlotte	Rew, Buck
"	"	25,29	2,1	Town of Amity	Burtons
"	"	26	1	Town of Alabama	Endres
"	"	26	1	Frewsburg	Gagne
No. Mockingbird	"	9,10	1	Kiantone	Gagne
*Water Pipet	"	24F	26	Town of Charlotte	Rew, Buck
"	"	24F	3	Town of Collins	O'Dell
"	"	24F	27	Town of Eden	O'Dell
"	"	30	500	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Cedar Waxwing	"	21	1	Town of Amity	Burtons
Shrike Sp.	"	30	1	Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
Northern Shrike	"	1	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	2	1	Grand Island	Hess
"	"	7	2	Iroquois NWR	Dornhafter, Becker
"	"	7	1	Town of Stockton	Mosher
"	"	28	1	Tonawanda WMA	Collins
"	"	28	1	Randolph	Gagne
Rufous-s. Towhee	"	31F	1	Burgeson W.S.	Gagne
"	"	31F	1	Pt. Gratiot	Gagne
*Vesper Sparrow	"	29F	1	Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Sundell
*Swamp Sparrow	"	24F	1	Town of Stockton	Rew, Buck
Lapland Longspur	"	24	1	Town of Charlotte	Rew, Buck
Eastern Meadowlark	"	3F	1	Kiantone	Gagne
"	"	10	2	over Pinehurst	D'Anna et al
Rusty Blackbird	"	4F,6	1,1	Belmont	Burtons

Volume 51, No. 4 "March Noteworthy Records" cont.

Rusty Blackbird cont.	March	26	9	Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Purple Finch	"	1-31	5-15	Darien(f)	Harper
	"	1-31	2-13	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	1-31	1-10	Belmont	Burtons
	"	3	3	Orchard Park	O'Dell
	"	3-31	30-50	Town of Wales(f)	O. Rosche
	"	16	2	North Boston	O'Dell
Red Crossbill	"	9-29	1-3	Alfred	Klingensmith
*Pine Siskin	"	10	1	Burgeson W.S.	Gagne
	"	11,12	3,2	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	26	6	Great Valley	Gagne
Evening Grosbeak	"	1-31	1-29	Town Of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	5	8	Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	7,8,9	4,2,1	Belmont	Burtons
	"	28	2	Burgeson W.S.	Gagne

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....112

Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue.....18

Total for the year.....130

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Ontario Plains Field Trip, March 3rd

Twenty-four enthusiastic members showed, eager to expand their year's list of birds. The weather was fair and the temperature was seasonal.

The first stop, Lewiston Dock, afforded excellent views of several hundred Oldsquaws competing with the fishing boats, also good views of several White-winged Scoters. Then a stop in the Youngstown Estates was most productive. We stopped for Mockingbirds but also added Flickers, Crows, Blue Jays, White-breasted Nuthatches, Starlings, Cardinals, Redwings, Grackles, House Finches and House Sparrows.

A feeder in Youngstown was occupied by more House Finches and Goldfinches. A short walk around Fort Niagara Yielded two very impressive views of two Red-headed Woodpeckers. Then at the Coast Guard Station a Redhead was added together with several dozen more White-winged Scoters and Oldsquaws in the distance. Before leaving the Fort Niagara area five migrating Redtails were added. Then on our way to the Power Vista most also saw several resident Kestrels but only the birders in the last car had the best bird of the day, a Red-bellied Woodpecker crossing the parkway in Lewiston.

The rest and lunch stop at the Power Vista added Mallards as well as many more Ring-billed Gulls and Oldsquaws.

Next, a search for the Snowy Owl seen earlier in the day at the Niagara Falls Air Base drew a blank except for two Pheasants seen on Lockport Road and four Redtails near Walmore Road. In desperation we ended up at Goat Island. But the new species added were limited to Black Ducks (2) among two hundred Mallards and an occasional Herring Gull among the Ringbill

Where over a hundred Robins were seen on scouting the area, only six were seen all day. All told the final species tally of 25 was disappointing.

Walter Klabunde

Update Your Membership Roster

Welcome! to new Associate Member:

Miss Roberta McDonald
1392 East Park Road
Grand Island, NY 14072
Tel. 773-2945

Change of address:

Dr. Gardiner Bump
Cedar Lake Nursing Home
West Bend, WI 53095

Correction:

David and Janice Bigelow's telephone number should be
337-3590.

From Farther Afield

(Notes From The Newsletters Of Other Birding Organizations)

We are used to sightings by the Jamestown Audubon of unusual birds in the Dunkirk Harbor. One example is the Laughing Gull seen this spring, only the seventh such observation in southwestern N.Y. A purple sandpiper with five previous records and a Harlequin duck with eight were also reported. Above-average numbers of some birds included 150 Horned Larks, 600 Snow Buntings and 1050 Red-breasted Mergansers.

In The Little Gull of the Rochester Birding Association (April), S. Skelly reports seeing a Barnacle Goose, found subsequently along the west Lakeshore for several weeks in March. Breeding in northeast Greenland, a vagrant in the Maritime Provinces, these ducks may be wild or escaped, especially those found inland. The Rochester area also produced White-fronted geese, a Bohemian Waxwing and 12 Lapland Longspurs.

Reported in The Goshawk (Genessee Ornithological Society) was the sighting of a monk parakeet during March near Pittsford. This calls to mind the fears that this bird would crowd out our native songbirds. Fortunately these fears never materialized.

The March raptor migration at Braddock Bay showed a slight increase above the past eight year average of 1934 hawks. Five Bald Eagles were included and a one day count of 94 Red-shouldered Hawks on March 27th. Rough-legs were scarce this year with only 27 listed by the end of March.

A chart submitted by the Moons shows how the Hawk Migration Association of North America makes its information computer-compatible. Numbers are assigned to such factors as wind speed, altitude of flight and condition of sky. Since wind speeds can range from calm (smoke rises vertically) to greater than 75 Km/h and the sky from 0 clear to 8 snow and 9 thunderstorm, we can better understand the stamina and dedication of observers.

That rumors fly as easily as birds was illustrated in the Maryland Yellowthroat (March-April). The deaths of three Bald Eagles was reported with one near the Blackwater refuge confirmed, but as the editor pointed out, the other two were not confirmed. Hopefully, they remain rumors.

The Audubon Naturalist News for March suggests means for control of the devastating gypsy moths, beginning with monitoring populations on one's own property. From August to April, identify egg masses. In late April to May, tie burlap bands about 18" wide around trunks, checking for caterpillars under the band each day. In July and August, use pheromone traps against males and place the traps in the freezer for about an hour a day. Or scrape off the egg masses and burn or soak them in bleach or ammonia. Government control is costly and inadequate so individuals can help.

Marian Dornhaffer

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and forth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

June 12: Picnic - Old Fort Erie Park. 6:00 p.m. Bring supper.

September 11: Summer Birding Experiences of Members. Do something interesting, ornithologically, this summer and come tell all about it at the kick-off meeting for the season. Members are encouraged to bring up to ten slides, or simply share anecdotes.

For further information, contact Barbara Walker, Program Committee Chairman, (649-1241, Hamburg, N.Y.).

FIELD TRIPS

These trips take most of the day so a lunch should be brought.

- June 16: Blockbusting Day for Breeding Bird Atlas.
Meet at East Aurora Village Shopping Center at 6:30 a.m. This is at the west side of East Aurora close to the intersection of Routes 20A and 78.
- June 30: Kortwright Bird Sanctuary near Guelph, Ontario.
Captive birds from over the world in pens and natural settings. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the American side of the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge. Leader: Bill Burch, tel. 773-3690.
- July 14: Picnic at Fran Rew's place near Cassadaga.
Bring lunch and meet at Leisureland parking lot at 10:00 a.m. Leisureland motel complex is at Exit 57 from I-90 at Hamburg.
- Route to Fran's place for explorers: Take Dunkirk Exit from I-90, the Highway 60 to Cassadaga. Fran is about $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of town. Specifically, at the traffic light in town, go east $\frac{3}{4}$ mile to end of road, jog to right 100 yards and continue east 5 miles to end of road. Jog to right $\frac{1}{4}$ mile on Rood Road, turn east at the maroon barn and go $\frac{3}{4}$ mile to end of road. Turn right onto Lewis Road and go $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to 1st house on the left (Fran's House).
- July 28: Canadian Shore of Lake Erie for Shorebirds.
We will meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Vermont & Busti entrance to the Peace Bridge or at 7:15 a.m. at the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge on the Canadian side.

For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690; Grand Island, N.Y.).

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, New York 14304.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES:

Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

\$10.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Pat Cordaro (printing), Lisa Jarnot (typing)

Editorial Board: Wavel Barber, Marian
Dornhaffer, Bradley Lown,
Julia Wells.

EDITOR:

Robert A. Klips
819 Auburn Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222

(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

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AUG 13 1985

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 51

MAY 1985

NUMBER 5

THE MONTH

"April is the cruelest month," so goes the poet's lament. It was certainly contradicted by our weather in April. The National Weather Service at Greater Buffalo International Airport described it as the warmest in 30 years and the driest since 1946. The month began with cloudy, windy and unseasonably cold weather and snow flurries followed by a brief period of unusually warm temperatures on April 5th when the thermometer reached 75°(F) before a cold front accompanying a deep low pressure system from Canada brought violent gale force winds with gusts up to 74 m.p.h. on the 6th. Following this period of fluctuating weather patterns, temperatures went from seasonal to unseasonably warm with a record high thermometer reading of 88°(F) on April 23rd, the hottest day ever recorded for this month at Buffalo! It was preceded by a record high temperature of 77°(F) on the 21st and followed by an 80°(F) day on the 24th before a cold front ushered in showers and more seasonable weather until month's end. The average temperature for the period was 49.5°(F), 4.1° above normal. Precipitation measured only 1.33 inches, mostly in a heavy (.55 inch) downpour on the 19th, a departure of 1.73 inches below the norm; snowfall was only 1.5 inches, recorded for the most part in heavy flurries on April 3rd and April 8th and none after that date. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

As might be expected, the unseasonably warm temperatures which dominated our weather patterns for so much of April also precipitated an influx of late spring migrants including a very early Black-bellied Plover in changing plumage seen by Dave Gagne and Dave Dister on a gravel bar at the mouth of Dutch Hollow Creek at Greenhurst on Chautauqua Lake on April 21st. Early arrival dates were recorded for many passer-

ine migrants including a Yellow-throated Vireo in Cattaraugus County on April 30th, several Blue-winged Warblers including single birds in Chautauqua County on the 27th and 30th, a single bird in Allegany County on the 29th and in Cattaraugus County on the 30th. An early Golden-winged Warbler was also seen in Cattaraugus County on the 30th. An early Tennessee Warbler was reported at Dunkirk on April 25th and a Chestnut-sided Warbler in Cattaraugus County on the 30th. On April 19th, an early Northern Waterthrush was seen in Chautauqua County; there were several early arrival dates for Louisiana Waterthrush, the first being two birds in the Town of Pomfret in Chautauqua County on April 16th. On April 26th, Vivian Pitzrick heard the now familiar buzzy song of an early Prairie Warbler in the Town of Amity in Allegany County.

Weather conditions in April proved excellent for the spring passage of raptors across the Niagara Frontier and a good show was provided for those field observers who give priority to this flight at this busy time in the bird-watcher's year. The ornithological event of the year to date, and a very difficult act to follow, was the sighting of an adult Mississippi Kite, the first record for our study area, by Tim Baird who observed the bird on April 20th hawking for insects over a swamp along N.Y. Route #242 between Bird Road and Sunset Road in the Town of Machias in Cattaraugus County. On the following day, Dick Byron and other local observers went to the hawk watching observation point at Braddock's Bay on Lake Ontario in Monroe County where they saw a Mississippi Kite among 3500 hawks and other raptors they tallied at that time. The same bird? There was a good coverage of raptor flight this year at the vantage point in the Town of Ripley in Chautauqua County manned by Fran Rew and Lois Buck and at the Pinehurst Sub-division lookout on the Old Lake Shore Road in the Town of Hamburg where many observers participated. Of course, the daily watch at the Beamer Point Conservation Area on the Niagara Escarpment in Grimsby Township, Ontario provided by the Hawk Migration Association of North America cannot be matched for its organization and thoroughness and it is of great interest to local birdwatchers as the site is but two miles west of the boundary of our study area in that township. Highlights of the raptor migration include a record flight of Turkey Vultures on the 4th and 5th of April when 361 vultures were counted at Beamer Point on the 4th and 375 over Forsythe Road in the Town of Ripley on the 5th. Fran Rew and Lois Buck also counted 95 vultures at Ripley during the big flight on a sunny and warm April 21st. There were numerous reports of migrating Ospreys this year with maximum counts of 15 birds over Ripley on April 13th and eight at that location on the 21st as well as eight at Beamer Point on the 23rd. On April 4th, the migration of Sharp-shinned Hawks picked up tempo with 83 counted at Beamer Point and 138 on the following day. The maximum count of this species at Pinehurst for the month was 70 birds on April 20th but 716 passed over Beamer Point on the 21st, a record breaking day at that location about which, more below. Northern Goshawks were also reported in good numbers in April. The first Broad-winged hawks of the season appeared in our study area on April 13th when Rew and Buck counted nine at Ripley. Maximum counts for the area of 100

and 1189 Broad-wings were recorded at that location on the 20th and 21st. On April 21st, a record total of 7007 hawks passed over Beamer Point, the day being sunny and warm with light southerly winds. Among these were 6007 Broad-winged Hawks, a Bald Eagle, a Peregrine Falcon and a Merlin. Merlins, while still an uncommon spring migrant, were more numerous than usual while both Northern Harriers and American Kestrels were reported in below average numbers. Six Golden Eagles were seen at Beamer Point in April and the highlight of an otherwise mediocre day of hawk watching at Pinehurst on the 13th was the passage of a probable adult or sub-adult Golden Eagle, first seen by Art Schaffner circling over Lake Erie some 650 meters away from the delighted observers. As frequently is the case, catching sight of a rarity is a game of inches. The writer left Pinehurst perhaps half an hour before and Bob Klips only minutes before this eagle made its appearance!

Highlights of the Society's April Bird Count reported in its entirety elsewhere in this issue, include the highest counts for many species. These include 257 Wood Ducks, 817 Turkey Vultures, 21 Cooper's Hawks, 13 Caspian Terns and 1,093 House Finches. Both Common Crow, with 1,952 birds and Evening Grosbeak, with 120 birds counted were at a ten year low. 96 Eastern Bluebirds is a ten year high figure for this species. Among the rarities were a Merlin in the Town of Ripley, a Pine Warbler at Rock Point Provincial Park and two Yellow-throated Warblers seen by Ernest Moreland and Darren Tavano at Bond Lake in the Town of Porter in Niagara County.

Among the interesting records received in April was that of a Great Egret seen by Doris and Lou Burton at Cuba Lake in Allegany County on April 10th and 11th. A flock of Tundra Swans estimated at 115 birds was seen in Cuba Marsh by the Burtons, also on the 11th. Gail and Delores Seamans reported a Great Egret at East Pembroke in Genesee County on the 4th. The Harlequin Duck, resident in Dunkirk Harbor since late February was last seen there on April 1st by Terry and Judy Mosher. An estimated 5000 Red-breasted Mergansers were counted in Dunkirk Harbor on April 11th by Dave Gagne and Bob Sundell. On April 30th, Art Schaffner and Alan Smith of St. Catharines were seeking passerine migrants among the trees and heavy shrubbery bordering the nature trail on the west side of Mud Lake in Humberstone Township, Ontario when they observed a Myiarchus flycatcher perched on the limb of a dead tree. They observed this bird at close range with binoculars and both men were intrigued by its whitish throat coloration, its pale lemon yellow flanks and a rufous tail which appeared to be noticeably smaller than that of the common Great Crested Flycatcher of eastern woodlands. Schaffner also commented that this bird was "definitely smaller than a Great-crested." No other field marks were noted but he is quite certain that the bird was an Ash-throated Flycatcher, Myiarchus cinerascens, and another hypothetical record of this species added to the Ontario list.

Finally, on April 10th, Dave Gagne and Dave Dister stopped by a barn yard on Frissell Road in the Town of Kiantone in Chautauqua County to examine a small flock of blackbirds feeding on a manure pile. Gagne

recounts that he was in the area in anticipation of seeing a Brewer's Blackbird, a rare passage migrant in Western New York in spring and a species he has seen in that particular area for four of the past five years between March 1st and April 10th. They identified the icterids in this flock as five Brewer's Blackbirds, two males in breeding plumage and three females. The diagnostic deep purple reflection of the head and throat and greenish reflection of the black bodies of the males and their yellowish-white eyes were clearly noted. The females were a uniform gray color with the dark eyes which help in distinguishing them from their congener, the Rusty Blackbird, the female of this species having light yellow eyes and a darker gray plumage.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

APRIL NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates of localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York And Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f)- Indicates record from feeding station.

Common Loon	April	3-12	1-2 Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	"	5	3 Pinehurst	Hess et al
	"	5,18	6,10 Pinehurst	Chilton
	"	7	7 Stow	Dister,
	"	8	6 Greenhurst	O'brien
	"	12	1 Pinehurst	Gagne, Dist
	"	13	7 Pinehurst	Hess, Axtel
	"	28	14 Chautauqua Lake	Schaffner,
Pied-billed Grebe	"	2	1 Amity Lake	Andrle
	"	11	1 Cuba	Gagne
Horned Grebe	"	3-5	2-9 Iroquois NWR	Pitzrick
	"	11	12 Cuba	Burtons,
	"	13	1 Tonawanda WMA	Jordan
				Endres
				Burtons,
				Jordan
				Schaffner
				et al

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Horned Grebe cont. April	13	3 Iroquois NWR	Schaffner et al
"	19	20 E. Aurora	Becker
*D-crest. Cormorant "	2F	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers
"	5	3 Pinehurst	Chilton
"	11	1 Iroquois NWR	Walker
"	13	4 Pinehurst	Schaffner, Andr. et al
"	18	2 Greenhurst	Gagne
"	19	5 Dunkirk Harbor	Dister
"	25	3 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	29	3 Mayville	Gagne, Dister
American Bittern "	18	1 Tiffy Farm N.P.	Chilton
"	20	1 Burgeson W.S.	Dister
"	20	3 Tonawanda WMA	D'anna, Potter
"	21	1 Burgeson W.S.	Gagne, Dister
"	21	1 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
"	28	1 Tonawanda WMA	Schaffner et al
Great Egret "	4	1 E. Pembroke	G&D Seamans
"	10	1 Burgeson W.S.	Gagne, Dister
"	10, 11	1, 1 Cuba	Burtons, Jordan
"	11	2 Tonawanda WMA	Walker
Green-b. Heron "	25-30	1-2 Belmont	Burtons
"	27	1 Burgeson W.S.	Gagne, Dister
B.-cr. Night-Heron "	5	10 Ft. Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
Snow Goose "	7	1 Iroquois NWR	Chilton
"	8	3 Iroquois NWR	Hess
"	11	1 Tonawanda WMA	Walker
"	28	2 Carlton Station	Schaffner et
"	28	1 Tonawanda WMA	Schaffner et a
"	28	1 Iroquois NWR	Schaffner et a
No. Shoveler "	2	5 Iroquois NWR	Chilton
"	7	2 Burgeson W.S.	Dister, O'Brien
"	8	8 Randolph	Gagne, Dister
"	8	15 Tonawanda WMA	Hess
"	10	3 Dunkirk	Mosher
"	11	7 Iroquois NWR	Schaffner et a
"	13	2 Stockton Twp.	Moshers
"	28	6 Iroquois NWR	Schaffner et al
"	30	1 Burgeson W.S.	Gagne, Dister
"	11	8 Cuba	Burtons, Jordan
Canvasback "	21	6 Chautauqua Lake	Gagne
Harlequin Duck "	1	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers
Oldsquaw "	3F, 11, 19	11, 3, 1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Surf Scoter "	19	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Dister
"	21	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Dister
"	25	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne
"	29	1 Mayville	Gagne, Dister
White-w. Scoter "	19	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Dister
"	21	4 Allegheny Res.	Gagne, Dister

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White-w. Scoter	April	28	1	Iroquois NWR	G&D Seaman
cont.	"	29	5	Mayville	Gagne, Dist
Red-br. Merganser	"	11	5000	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Sund
Ruddy Duck	"	1-5	2-3	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	11	3	Iroquois NWR	Walker
	"	21	1	Cassadaga Lake	Gagne, Dist
Turkey Vulture	"	5	65	Pinehurst	Hess et al
	"	5, 21	375, 93	Ripley	Rew, Buck
*Osprey	"	5F	1	Pinehurst	Hess et al
	"	10	1	Burgeson W.S.	Gagne
	"	12, 16	1, 1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	13	5	Pinehurst	Schaffner,
					Andrle et
	"	13	1	L. Erie S.P.	Moshers
	"	13, 20, 21, 22, 26	15, 5, 8, 6, 1	Ripley	Rew, Buck
	"	18	1	Belmont	Burtions
	"	20	1	Cuba	Burtions
	"	21	1	Ripley	Gagne, Dist
	"	24	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	24	1	Silver Creek	Chilton
	"	27	1	Times Beach	Chilton
Bald Eagle	"	5, 7, 21	1, 1, 1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	19	1	Kiantone	Gagne
	"	20	1	Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Pot
	"	20	1	Kiantone	Dister
(All Bald Eagles reported were immatures.)					
Northern Harrier	"	13	5	Pinehurst	Schaffner
	"	13	9	Ripley	et al
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	5	5	Pinehurst	Rew, Buck
	"	13	45	Pinehurst	Hess et al
					Schaffner
	"	13, 21, 26	98, 112, 95	Ripley	et al
	"	20	70	Pinehurst	Rew, Buck
	"	21	67	Ripley	Andrle et
	"	22	15	Hamburg	Gagne, Dis
	"	30	30	Stockton Twp.	Hess et al
Cooper's Hawk	"	5	1	Pinehurst	Mosher, Ga
	"	8	1	Darien	Chilton
	"	13, 21, 26	4, 3, 6	Ripley	Harper
	"	18	1	Pinehurst	Rew, Buck
					Schaffner
	"	21	1	Burgeson W.S.	et al
Northern Goshawk	"	13, 21, 22	1, 1, 1	Ripley	Gagne
	"	28(adult)	1	Allegheny Res.	Rew, Buck
Red-should. Hawk	"	21	6	Ripley	Gagne
*Broad-wing. Hawk	"	13F, 20, 21, 22, 26	9, 1003, 1189, 229, 95	Ripley	Rew, Buck
	"	20	667	Pinehurst	Andrle et
	"	21	169	Ripley	Gagne, Dis

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*Broad-wing. Hawk April	21	4	Scio&Ward Twps.	Pitzrick
cont.	" 21,22	2,1	Alfred	Klingensmith
"	" 22	1	Sawmill Run Rd.	Elderkins
"	" 22	12	Hamburg	Hess et al
"	" 22-30	1-2	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	" 30	1	W. Almond	Burtons
Red-tailed Hawk	" 5,21	63,67	Ripley	Rew,Buck
"	" 13	14	Pinehurst	Schaffner et
"	" 21	16	Ripley	Gagne,Dister
Rough-leg. Hawk	" 5	1	Pinehurst	Chilton
"	" 7	1	Iroquois NWR	Chilton
"	" 10	1	Amity Twp.	Burtons
"	" 22	1	Hamburg	Hess et al
*Golden Eagle	" 13	1	Pinehurst	Axtell,Andrle et al
American Kestrel	" 5,14	14,12	Ripley	Rew,Buck
"	" 13	23	Pinehurst	Schaffner et
Merlin	" 21	1	Pt. Gratiot	Gagne,Dister
"	" 25	1	Pomfret Twp.	Gagne
*Virginia Rail	" 11F	1	N. Harmony	Gagne
"	" 15,16	1	Times Beach	Hess
"	" 20	2	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	" 27	1	Tiffet Farm N.P.	Chilton
Sora	" 27	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
*Common Moorhen	" 20F	2	Tonawanda WMA	D'Anna,Potte
*Black-bell. Plover	" 21F	1	Greenhurst	Gagne,Dister
*Lesser Yellowlegs	" 6F	3	Kiantone	Dister
*Solitary Sandpiper	" 19F	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	" 21	1	Kiantone	Gagne,Dister
*Spotted Sandpiper	" 22F,25	1,1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	" 25	1	Canadaway Cr.N.S.	Gagne
*Upland Sandpiper	" 22F	1	Frewsburg	Elderkins
"	" 22F	3	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Pectoral Sandpiper	" 11	1	Kiantone	Gagne,Dister
"	" 11	1	Riverside	Elderkins
"	" 11	12	Iroquois NWR	Walker
Bonaparte's Gull	" 11	36	Burgeson W.S.	Dister
"	" 21	61	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	" 23	1500+	Ft.Niagara S.P.	D'Anna,Potte
Glaucous Gull	" 2	1	Buffalo	Andrle,Foste
"	" 28	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne
Caspian Tern	" 18	1	Pinehurst	Rew,Chilton
"	" 21	14	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne,Dister
"	" 21	23	Barcelona	Gagne,Dister
Common Tern	" 16	1	Ft. Erie,Ont.	Schaffner, Smith
"	" 21	31	Allegheny Res.	Gagne,Dister
Long-eared Owl	" 13	1	Youngstown	D'Anna,Potte
"	" 14	2	Dunn Twp.,Ont.	Andrle et al

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*Chimney Swift	April	25F	1 Pt. Gratiot	Gagne
"	"	26	4 E. Pembroke	G&D Seamans
Belted Kingfisher	"	13	5 Pinehurst	Schaffner et
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	4	2 Batavia	G&D Seamans
"	"	4,5,24	1,1,1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	11-30	2 Pt. Gratiot	Gagne
"	"	14	2 Waterport.	G&D Seamans
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	10	1 Amity Lake	Pitzricks
"	"	11	1 Cuba	Burtions, Jorda
"	"	11	2 Iroquois NWR	Schaffner et
"	"	19	1 Burgeson W.S.	Gagne
*Eastern Kingbird	"	30F	1 W. Almond	Burtions
*Purple Martin	"	13F	1 Pinehurst	Schaffner
"	"	15	2 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
N. Rough-w. Swallow	"	15	1 Times Beach	Hess
*Cliff Swallow	"	27F	2 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	28	1 Burgeson W.S.	Gagne
*Barn Swallow	"	10F	1 Pinehurst	Hess, Connair
"	"	16	1 Allegheny Res.	Elderkins
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-30	1-4 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	2	1 Pomfret Twp. (f)	Moshers
"	"	14	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Schaffner, Zebahazy
"	"	15-30	2 Holland	Becker
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	21	2 Canadaway Cr. N.S.	Gagne, Dist
"	"	25	2 Alfred	Klingensmith
*Carolina Wren	"	5	1 Pinehurst	Chilton, Hess, et al
*House Wren	"	21F, 25	1,2 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	24	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Winter Wren	"	8	2 Fredonia College Lodge	Chilton
"	"	11	2 Pt. Gratiot	Gagne, Sundell
"	"	14	4 Erie Beach, Ont.	Schaffner, Zebehazy
"	"	16	2 Times Beach	Hess
"	"	27	1 Charlotte Twp.	Rew
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	"	15	10+ Forest Lawn, Buffalo	O'Dell
*Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	"	20F	1 Tiffit Farm N.P.	Andrle, Foster
"	"	20F	3 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	22	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-23	1-2 Pomfret Twp.	Moshers
"	"	1-30	32(16pairs) Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	4-30	4 Pomfret Twp.	Flory
"	"	11	1 Frindship	Burtions, orda
"	"	11	2 Iroquois NWR	Walker
"	"	12, 22	2,2 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	14	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	14	1 Stockton Twp.	Mosher

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Eastern Bluebird cont.	April	15	2 Busti	Elderkins
"	"	17	4 Frewsburg	Elderkins
"	"	20	2 Amity Twp.	Burtens
"	"	20, 27	2, 2 Friendship	Burtens
Hermit Thrush	"	15	1 Kiantone	Dister
"	"	15	3 Forest Lawn, Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	18	4 Tifft Farm NP	Chilton
*Wood Thrush	"	26F	1 Pomfret Twp.	Moshers
"	"	27	1 Kiantone	Gagne, Dister
Gray Catbird	"	25	1 Allegheny Res.	Elderkins
"	"	30	1 Allegheny Res.	Gagne
N. Mockingbird	"	12	1 Kiantone	Elderkins
Brown Thrasher	"	18	1 Tifft Farm NP	Chilton
Water Pipit	"	3	2 Jamestown	Gagne
"	"	3	7 Stockton Twp.	Moshers
"	"	3	8 Riverside	Elderkins
"	"	21	20 Corfu	G&D Seamans
*Solitary Vireo	"	17F, 19	1, 1 Forest Lawn, Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	20	1 Westfield Twp.	Rew
*Yellow-thr. Vireo	"	30F	2 Allegheny Res.	Gagne
*Warbling Vireo	"	30F	2 Mud Lake, Ont.	Schaffner, Sm.
Blue-w. Warbler	"	27F	1 Kiantone	Dister
"	"	27F, 29, 30	1, 1-2 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	30	1 Allegheny Res.	Gagne
*Golden-w. Warbler	"	30F	1 Allegheny Res.	Gagne
*Tennessee Warbler	"	25F	1 Pt. Gratiot	Gagne
*Nashville Warbler	"	25F, 27	2 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	25F	1 Forest Lawn, Buffalo	O'Dell
*Yellow Warbler	"	24F	1 E. Aurora	Becker
"	"	25	1 Belmont	Burtens
*Chestnut-s. Warbler	"	30F	2 Allegheny Res.	Gagne
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	15	1 Forest Lawn, Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	17-30	1-15 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Bl.-thr. Green Warb.	"	21F	1 Scio Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	22	1 Forest Lawn, Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	22	1 Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
*Blackburnian Warbler	"	30F	3 Onoville	Gagne
Pine Warbler	"	18, 19	1, 2 Burgeson W.S.	Gagne
"	"	20, 25	2, 1 Forest Lawn, Buffalo	Schaffner
"	"	22		A. Clark
"	"	22	1 Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
*Prairie Warbler	"	26F	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
*Palm Warbler	"	18F, 23	1, 1 Tifft Farm NP	Chilton
"	"	21	1 Fredonia Airport	Gagne, Dister
*Bl.-&-w. Warbler	"	30F	4 Allegheny Res.	Gagne
*American Redstart	"	30F	1 Allegheny Res.	Gagne
*N. Waterthrush	"	19	1 Burgeson W.S.	Gagne
"	"	27	10 Burgeson W.S.	Gagne
"	"	30	1 Tifft Farm NP	Chilton

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*La. Waterthrush	April	16F	2	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	"	19	1	Burgeson W.S.	Gagne
"	"	28	6	Chesnut Ridge Pk.	O'Dell
"	"	29	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	30	3	Onoville	Gagne
*Rose-br. Grosbeak	"	30F	1-2	Stockton Twp.	Gagne, Mosher
"	"	30F	2	Allegheny Res.	Gagne
Rufous-s. Towhee	"	8	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
*Chipping Sparrow	"	6F-30	2-4	Darien(f)	Harper
"	"	11	1	Kiantone	Gagne
*Field Sparrow	"	7F-10	1	Belmont(f)	Burtens
"	"	7F-30	1-5	Darien(f)	Harper
"	"	8-30	3-5	Alfred	Klingensmith
Vesper Sparrow	"	6	1	Lakeside Beach	SP D'Anna, Pot
*Savannah Sparrow	"	10F	1	Kiantone	Gagne
"	"	13-30	10-15	Wales	O. Rosche
*Grasshopper Sparrow	"	24F	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Fox Sparrow	"	8F	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	15	1	Times Beach	Hess
"	"	18	1	Tifft Farm NP	Chilton
Swamp Sparrow	"	9	2	Iroquois NWR	Endres
White-cr. Sparrow	"	21F	2	Pomfret Twp.	Gagne, Dister
"	"	22-29	1	Rose Hill Rd, Ont.	Axtell
Snow Bunting	"	9L	1	Batavia Twp.	Endres
*Bobolink	"	30F	1	Alleghany Res.	Gagne
*Brewer's Blackbird	"	10	5	Kiantone	Gagne, Dister
*Northern Oriole	"	30F	1	Stockton Twp.	Gagne, Mosher
Purple Finch	"	1-30	1	Boston	O'Dell
"	"	1-30	1-6	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	1-30	2-4	Belmont	Burtens
"	"	1-30	2-6	Darien(f)	Harper
"	"	1-30	15-30	Wales(f)	O. Rosche
"	"	5	4	Pomfret Twp.	Flory
"	"	10	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
Red Crossbill	"	*6,10,21,22	3,8,3,5	Alfred	Klingensmith
Pine Siskin	"	6-24	1-3	Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	19	1	Burgeson W.S.	Gagne
"	"	21	5	Cassadaga Lake	Gagne, Dister
"	"	28	2	E. Pembroke	G&D Seamans
"	"	29	1	Mayville	Gagne, Dister
"	"	30	2	Onoville	Gagne
Evening Grosbeak	"	1-23	2-25	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	4,9	1,12	Belmont	Burtens
"	"	14	3	Wales(f)	O. Rosche
"	"	19	1	Burgeson W.S.	Gagne

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....130
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue..... 61
Total for year.....191

REPORT OF THE APRIL BIRD COUNT

Date: April 14, 1985

Compiled by Tom Harper

Weather: Temperature of 45° in the morning rising to 70° in the afternoon. Sunny with winds out of the west 10 -15 m.p.h.

Compilation: Following is a list of species recorded on the count and the total numbers where species were recorded in three or fewer sections. Underlined common names indicate that the acceptable written verifications were required and submitted. An asterick indicates first 1985 record for B.O.S. territory.

Loons - Ruddy Duck

<u>Red-throated Loon</u> - 1 (23)	Blue-winged Teal - 368
Common Loon - 26	Northern Shovler - 71
Pied-billed Grebe - 78	Gadwall - 32
Horned Grebe - 103	Amer. Wigeon - 352
Red-necked Grebe - 3 (4,26)	Canvasback - 175
<u>Dbf.-crested Cormorant</u> - 7 (6,11)	Redhead - 38
*Amer. Bittern - 4F (10,16,19)	Ring-necked Duck - 369
Great Blue Heron - 228	Greater Scaup - 1745
Great Egret - 2 (8,17)	Lesser Scaup - 1632
* <u>Green-backed Heron</u> - 1F (20)	Scaup Sp. - 42
<u>Bl.-crown. Night Heron</u> - 6(11,23)	Olsquaw - 1060
Tundra Swan - 40	Black Scoter - 1 (4)
<u>Mute Swan</u> - 1 (11)	Surf Scoter - 1F (1)
Snow Goose - 11 (5,10,12)	White-winged Scoter - 97
Canada Goose - 45,723	Common Goldeneye - 446
Wood Duck - 257	Bufflehead - 954
Green-winged Teal - 89	Hooded Merganser - 99
Amer. Black Duck - 62	Common Merganser - 388
Mallard - 1038	Red-br. Merganser - 9,025
Northern Pintail - 54	Ruddy Duck - 23

Vultures - Rails

Turkey Vulture - 817	Rough-legged Hawk - 9
Osprey - 22	Amer. Kestrel - 206
Northern Harrier - 49	*Merlin - 1F (22)
Sh.-shinned Hawk - 181	Ring-necked Pheasant - 42
Cooper's Hawk - 21	Ruffed Grouse - 68
<u>Northern Goshawk</u> - 2 (24,28)	Wild Turkey - 49
Red-shouldered Hawk - 12	Virginia Rail - 4 (23,26)
Broad-winged Hawk - 42	*Sora - 2F (23)
Red-tailed Hawk - 307	Amer. Coot - 356

Shorebirds

Killdeer - 514
Greater Yellowlegs - 34
Lesser Yellowlegs - 9

Pectoral Sandpiper - 10 (1)
*Common Snipe - 153
Amer. Woodcock - 54

Gulls - Flycatchers

Little Gull - 1 (3)
Bonaparte's Gull - 868
Ring-billed Gull - 39,253
Herring Gull - 738
Gr. Bl.-backed Gull - 8
*Caspian Tern - 13F
*Common Tern - 5F (8,11,20)
Rock Dove - 1,388
Mourning Dove - 1,442
Eastern Screech-owl -2 (13,21)
Great Horned Owl - 18
Barred Owl - 1 (26)

Long-eared Owl -2 (6)
Belted Kingfisher - 172
Red-headed Woodpecker - 7
Red-bellied Woodpecker -27
Yellow-bel. Sapsucker - 76
Downy Woodpecker - 330
Hairy Woodpecker - 101
Northern Flicker - 59
Pileated Woodpecker - 24
Eastern Phoebe - 214

Larks - Starlings

Horned Lark (undif. ssp.) - 269
Horned Lark (E.a. praticola) - 39
Purple Martin - 28
Tree Swallow - 560
*N. Rough-winged Swallow - 6F
*Bank Swallow - 3 (24)
Barn Swallow - 6 (6,23,24)
Blue Jay - 1,045
Crow - 1,952
Bl.-Cap. Chickadee - 1,183
Tufted Titmouse - 25
Red-br. Nuthatch - 15F
White-br. Nuthatch - 192
Brown Creeper - 125
Winter Wren - 16

*Marsh Wren - 1 (13)
Golden-cr. Kinglet - 393
Ruby-cr. Kinglet - 10F
Eastern Bluebird - 96
*Hermit Thrush - 15F
Amer. Robin - 10,333
*Gray Catbird - 2F(9,27)
Northern Mockingbird - 7(1,3)
*Brown Thrasher - 8F
Cedar Waxwing - 659
Loggerhead Shrike - 1 (20)
European Starling - 11,115

Warblers - Finches

Yellow-rumped Warblers - 11
*Pine Warbler - 1 (6)
*Yellow-thr. Warbler - 2F (3)
Northern Cardinal - 619
Rufous-sided Towhee - 25
Amer. Tree Sparrow - 185
Chipping Sparrow - 81
Field Sparrow - 110

Dark-eyed Junco - 1,686
Lapland Longspur - 20 (5)
Red-winged Blackbird - 10,575
Eastern Meadowlark - 371
Rusty Blackbird - 302
Common Grackle -12,383
Br.-headed Cowbird - 1,740
Pine Grosbeak - 8 (19,28)

Warblers - Finches

Vesper Sparrow - 30
Savannah Sparrow - 136
Fox Sparrow - 21
Song Sparrow - 2,507
Swamp Sparrow - 152
Wh.-thr. Sparrow - 126
Wh.-cr. Sparrow - 8

Purple Finch - 309
House Finch - 1,093
Red Crossbill - 4 (17)
Pine Siskin - 29
Amer. Goldfinch - 1,182
Evening Grosbeak - 120
House Sparrow - 2,601

Total Species - 141

Total Individuals - 176,906

Comments: Db1.-crested Cormorant 7 (highest ever), Mute Swan 2 (10 year high), Wood Duck 257 (highest ever, 162 previous high), Amer. Wigeon 352 (10 year high), Turkey Vulture 817 (highest ever, 356 previous high), Sharp-sh. Hawk 181 (highest ever), Cooper's Hawk 21 (highest ever), Broad-winged Hawk 42 (highest ever), Virginis Rail 4 (highest ever), Woodcock 54 (10 year high), Caspian Tern 13 (highest ever), Mourning Dove 1,442 (highest ever), Belted Kingfisher 172 (highest ever), Yellow-bellied sapsucker 76 (highest ever), Pileated Woodpecker 24 (10 year high), Eastern Phoebe 214 (10 year high), Crow 1,952 (10 year low), Brown Creeper 125 (10 year high), Golden-cr. Kinglet 393 (10 year high), Eastern Bluebird 96 (10 year high), Northern Mockingbird 7 (10 year high), Field Sparrow 110 (10 year high), Swamp Sparrow 152 (highest ever), Lapland Longspur 20 (10 year high), Pine Grosbeak 8 (10 year high), House Finch 1,093 (highest ever), Evening Grosbeak 120 (10 year low).

Sections and Observers: The compiler would like to thank all the section compilers and observers who made this count a success. In the list that follows, compilers names are underlined.

1. Fonthill, Ont.: Jerry Chapple
2. Thorold, Ont.: Not covered
3. Wilson, N.Y.: Walter & Hrriette Klabunde, Charles & Ernest Dishaw, Ann Miranian, Jim Moreland, Tim O'Day, Daren Tavano.
4. Middleport, N.Y.: Robert Brock
5. Oak Orchard, N.Y.: Dick Christensen, Marion Smith, Charlotte Pratt, Morgan Jones, Bill Burch, Gail & Dolores Seamans.
6. Port Maitland, Ont.: David Cooper, Robert Andrle, Joseph Thill,

Sections and Observers cont.

7. Lowbanks, Ont.: Blaine Farnan, Jean Farnan, Drew Campbell.
8. Fort Erie, Ont.: Mike Zebehazy, Ed Williams, Arthur Schaffner.
9. Grand Island, N.Y.: Karen Renning, Jack & Marge Wright, Ed Croho, Mary Stegmeice, Roberta McDonald.
10. Akron, N.Y.: Willie D'Anna, Betsy Potter, Dick Collins.
11. Buffalo, N.Y.: Bob Klips, Ray Prybis, Charles Halvorsen, Brad Lown, Robert & Pauline Schwartz.
12. Lancaster, N.Y.: Marie Wendling, Anna Bauer, Dorothy & Fred Danner, Ray Franz, Tom Harper, Cy Wolfling.
13. Batavia, N.Y.: George Mahany, Don Thureau, Dave Keller, Robert & Eileen Hull.
14. Hamburg, N.Y.: Barbara Walker, Bob & Lucile Leonard, Mac & Sterling Ruhl, Thelma Pickett, Lois Abbott, Phylis Hoasen, Ken Brandes Barb Howard, Pam Mc Neill, Mrs. John Hunley, Jane Skrypis, Mary Herbst, Audrey Zegebath, Mary Saville.
15. Java, N.Y.: Bill Bogacki, Esther Becker, Olga Rosche.
16. Angola, N.Y.: Mike Turisk, Vivian Souden.
17. Cattaraugus, N.Y.: Wavel & Maxine Barber, Audrey Hobbett, Carolyn Frank, Frances Frank, Rae Uhl.
18. Delevan, N.Y.: Don & Jane Clark
19. Fillmore, N.Y.: Allegheny Bird Club, Katherine Palmer, Donald Goodsell, Margaret Kaufman, Faye Clancy, Ron Andrews, Helen Morse, Jean Perry, Mr. & Mrs. Roger Nicholson, Vesta Rice, Marian & Emmette Smith, Alice Evans, Ken Boon, Vic Carpenter, Larry Mullen, Mr. & Mrs. Marion Spencer, Larry Wilson, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Wilson.
20. Dunkirk, N.Y.: Lake Erie Bird Club, Terry Mosher, Allen Benton, Jim Bowser, Nancy Bowser, Sylvia Clarke, Jeanie Flory, Joanne Goetz, Joe Gula, Greg Harper, Phil Kumler, Judy Mosher, Terry Mosher, Lucille Neveu, Duane Pearson, Bob Peterson, Marty Sanden, Audrey Schafer, Doris Welch, Tom Welch.
21. Cherry Creek, N.Y.: Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Otto & Gretchen Carlson, Daniel Cordosi, David Gagne, Julie Heilman, Frances Lapinski, Dorothy Pihlblad, Edna Rexford, Carol Roby.

Sections and Observers cont.

23. Frewsburg, N.Y.: Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Daniel Cordosi, David Gagne, Lewis Kibler, Joanne Nelson, Jean Pigman, Thomas Simmons Sr., Thomas Simmons Jr.

24. Allegany S.P., N.Y.: Cattaraugus County Bird Club, John & Mary Forness.

25. Allegany, N.Y.: Cattaraugus County Bird Club, Dorothy Baker, James & Regina Van Scoy.

26. Cuba, N.Y.: Allegany County Bid Club, Doris Burton, Lou Burton, Bruce & Bob Smally, Ann & Morris Scott, Betty & John Compton.

27. Bolivar, N.Y.: Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Doris Hurlburt, Emma Lou King, Lillian & Stella Simons, Annie Smith, Betty Hooker, Frances DeGroff, Wilma Sanford, Sharon Baumgardner, Helen Apsey, Norman Ives.

28. Alfred, N.Y.: Allegany County Bird Club, Clarence Klingensmith, Vivian Pitzrick, Mrs. Bror Larson, Elizabeth W. Brooks, Carla Koch, Jim Copenheaver, Lavinia Creighton, Ann & Robert Eisenhardt, Peter & Terry Finlay, Eva Ford, Margaret Klingensmith, Kathy MacDonald, Ruth Paige, Agnes & Everett Rhodes, Mary Ormsby, Anne & Robert Pipal, Dan Rase, Suzanne Wood, Paul & Cynthia Culley.

29. Almond, N.Y.: Russell Allen, Dorothy & Fred Bayless, Esther Biehl, Lorna Brink, Vivian Brownell, Jay & Louise Gibson, Mildred Hayes, Fay & Ben Heller, Dean Hoover, Bob & Marjorie Mason, Ed & Marjorie Mason, Linn Phelan, Violet Sharrett, Maureen & Lauren Soule, Allen Witter.

30. Andover, N.Y.: Wisner Cook, Kathy Kent, Ken McClure, Jim Ninos, Gordon Pease, Connor Stephens, Bea Thompson, Bill Walker, Harold Ward.

31. Belmont, N.Y.: Mallory & Mary Adams, Doris & Lou Burton, Clifford Button, Lloyd & Sandra Hotchkiss, Raymond Pitzrick, James Valente.

32. Scio, N.Y.: Roberta Clark, Dale & Evelyn Coats, Paul & Mary Alice Fuller, Robert & Claribel James, Theodore Vossler.

33. Wellsville, N.Y.: Mrs. Ira Brown, Mrs. Blair Buccholz, Mr. & Mrs. Carl Burdick, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Cronauer, Mrs. Helen Graves, Norman Ives, Mrs. Norbert Shear, Mrs. Rita Sick, Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Spencer, Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Spencer, Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Taggart, Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Taggart, Mr. & Mrs. William Thompson.

903 Broadway, Darien Center, N.Y. 14040

THE BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S

1985 MARCH WINTER-BIRD SURVEY REPORT

This fourth year of our 5-year survey of the Tufted Titmouse the Carolina Wren, the Northern Mockingbird, the Northern Cardinal and the House Finch was less successful than previous years both in motivating members to participate and in finding the birds.

We had 26 members (out of a possible 180 members, 15%, who live in this part of Region 1 all year) who helped us out this year. This is down from 1984's 39. Forty-five friends on both sides of the border helped us and they made the difference in all of the statistics even though their numbers were also down from 1984's 52. Our total number of observers was 71.

Fifteen sections (down) reported the following: 29 Titmice (down); 4 Carolina Wrens (up); 18 Northern Mockingbirds (same as 1984) 257 Northern Cardinals (down); and 1087 House Finches (down).

On the next two pages are (1) a map of the 28 sections of our region showing who reported what from where - e.g. Area 11 members Danner, Forsbergs and Harper, plus friends Danner and Smiths reported 5 Titmice, 8 Cardinals, and 24 House Finches; (2) a chart showing sections reported from, individual species found, total No. of birds and observers, plus the % of total members who helped; e.g. in Area 3 B.O.S. has 14 members - 2 of those members helped us - a percentage of 14.2. Special sightings from the reports are also listed.

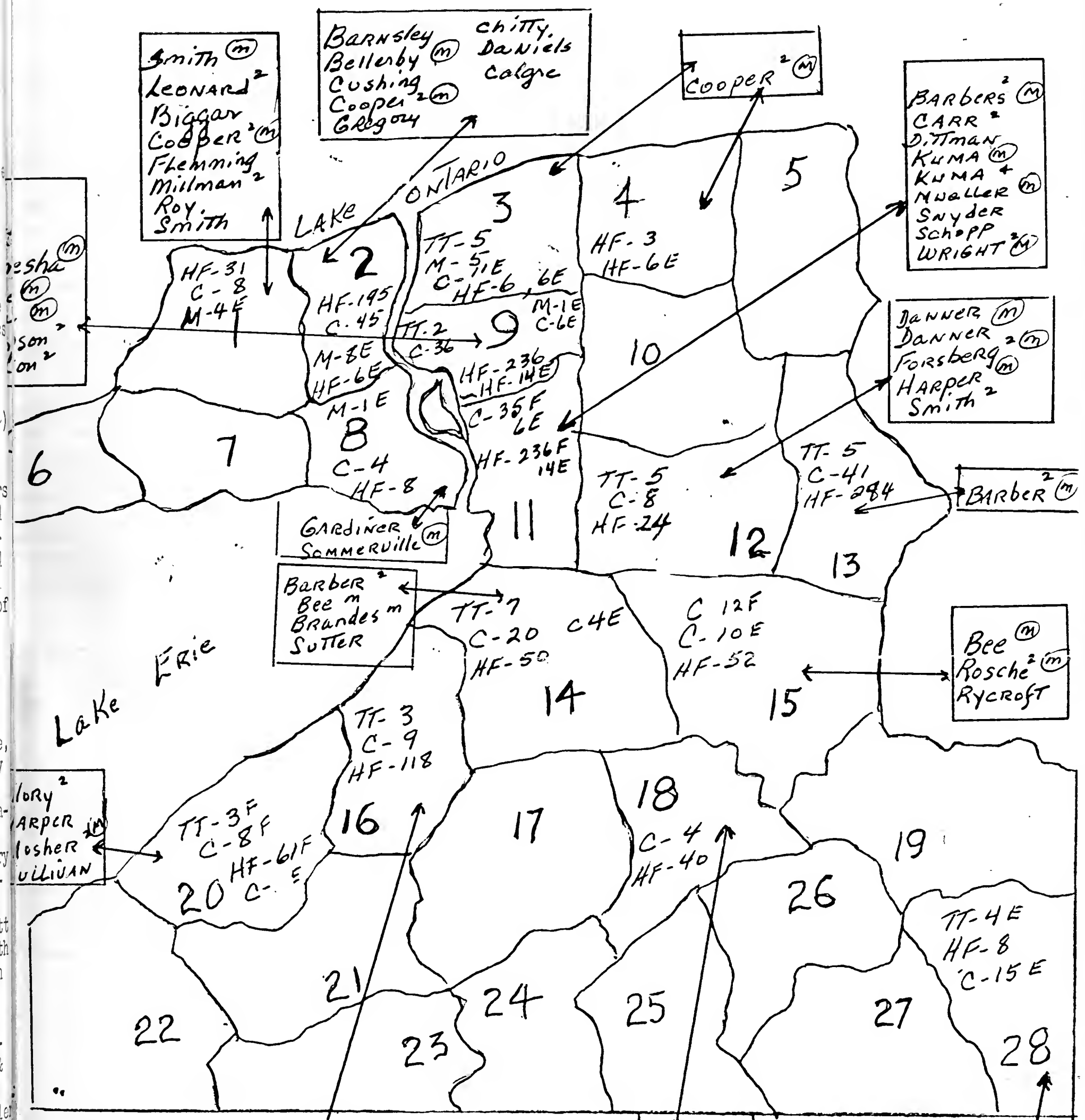
Participation will need to be greatly increased next year, the final year, in order to aggressively seek out these birds of our survey.

Many thanks to our 15 Canadian friends who assisted this year: L. Biggar, Mrs. David Flemming, and Mrs. D. Smith of Ridgeville, Ont.; Mr. & Mrs. J. Leonard, Charles Chitty, Audrey Barnsby, Khyo Roy and Mr. & Mrs. Millman of St. Catherines, Rev. Calgre of Meadville, R. Gardiner of Fort Erie, Mrs. Gregory and Mrs. A. Cushing of Niagara-on-the-Lake and E. Daniels of Niagara Falls, Ont.

And to our 30 American friends: Dr. Harper, Mr. & Mrs. Flory of Fedonia; Mrs. Langer and Mrs. Sullivan of Dunkirk; R. Sutter, Hamburg; Mrs. S. Clarke and Mrs. P. Steese of Silver Creek; the Kuma family of Buffalo; Mr. & Mrs. Carr and E. Schopp of Tonawanda; C. Batt and Mr. & Mrs. Simpson of No. Tonawanda; Mr. & Mrs. J. Barber of South Wales; Mr. F. Danner and Mr. & Mrs. K. Smith of Elma; Mrs. D. Dittman of Buffalo; Mrs. Snyder of Amherst; Mr. & Mrs. Wixson of Gr. Island; R. Rycroft of Gainsville and Dr. and Mrs. Neveu of Silver Creek.

Kudos to our members: Alan Smith of St. Catherines; G. Bel- lersby of Niagara-on-the-Lake and Dr. Sommerville of Fort Erie; Mr. & Mrs. W. Barber, Dr. and Mrs. Cooper, M. Bee, Don Clark, J. Cole, M. Clemesha, Mrs. Fred Danner, K. Brandes, W. Laux, R. Kuma, C. Mueller Mr. & Mrs. Forsberg, T. Harper, Mr. & Mrs. A. Rosche, Mr. & Mrs. T. Mosher, V. Pitzrick and Mr. & Mrs. Wright.

Compiler, Margaret Wright



Clarke
Langer
Neven
Steese

CLARK (m)

PITZERICK (m)

** E = elsewhere

Sectional Divisions of Territory of the Buffalo Ornithological Society

Section	T. T. F. Moose Ted	C. W. R. N. CAROLINA	M. B. K. Bird Mocking	C. R. D. I N G	H. O. U. S. E Finch	T. O. T. A. L Birds	N. O. O. B. S. E. R. V. E. R. S.	% Mem. who Birded *	Special Sighting
1			6 E	25 F 2 E	69 F 2 E	94 F 10 E	2 Mem. 8 Fnd.	Ø	R. Br. Woodpecker Kingfisher Pine Siskin Song Sparrow Brown Creeper
2		2 F 2 E	2 F 2 E	19 F	128 F	151 F 9 E	4 Mem. 6 Fnd.	67%	Pine Warbler at feeder 2 days
3	5 F		5 F 1 E	3 F 11 E	6 F	19 F 12 E	2 Mem.	14.2%	
4					3 F 6 E	3 F 6 E	2 Mem.	0%	
8			1 E	4 F	8 F	12 F 1 E	1 Mem. 1 Fnd.	0%	
9	2 F		1 E	36 F 6 E	236 F 14 E	274 F 21 E	3 Mem. 5 Fnd.	25%	Y. Sh. Flicker Coopers Hawk Glaucous Gull
11				35 F 6 E	231 F	266 F 6 E	6 Mem. 9 Fnd.	7%	Purple F. - Nuthatch Tree Sparrow
12	5 F			17 F	50 F	72 F	4 Mem. 3 Fnd.	40%	50 Snow Geese R. H. Woodpecker Turkey - 3/3
13					5 F	5 F	2 Mem.	Ø	
14	7 F			20 F 4 E	50 F	77 F 4 E	2 Mem. 3 Fnd.	6.6%	Goldfinches Pine Warbler T. T. Moose Dec.
15				12 F 10 E	52 F	64 F 10 E	3 Mem. 1 Fnd.	100%	
16	3 F			9 F	118 F	130 F	5 Fnd.	Ø	1 albino H. Mockingbird in
18				4 F	40 F	44 F	2 Mem.	100%	
20	3 F			8 F 11 E	61 F	72 F 11 E	2 Mem. 5 Fnd.	100%	
28	4 E			15 E	8 F	8 F 19 E	1 Mem.	50%	
TOTALS	25 F 4 E	2 F 2 E	7 F 11 E	192 F 65 E	1065 F 22 E	1291 F 104 E 1395	26 Mem. 45 Fnd. 71		

*

Explanations: B.O.S. has no members in Area 1 - but 2 of members from Section 3 bided There - and Sections 3 & 4. BARBERS bided in 11 + 13;
F = Feeder E = Elsewhere bided in 14 + 15.

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

September 11: Summer Birding Experiences of Members. Do something interesting, ornithologically, this summer and come tell all about it at the kick-off meeting for the season. Members are encouraged to bring up to ten slides, or simply share anecdotes.

For further information, contact Barbara Walker, Program Committee Chairman, (649-1241, Hamburg, N.Y.).

FIELD TRIPS

These trips take most of the day so a lunch should be brought

July 28: Canadian Shore of Lake Erie for Shorebirds.
We will meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Vermont & Busti entrance to the Peace Bridge or at 7:15 a.m. at the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge on the Canadian side.

For further information about field field trips, contact William Burch Field Tips Committee Chairman (773-3690; Grand Island, N.Y.).

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, New York 14304.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES:

Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

\$10.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Pat Cordaro (printing), Lisa Jarnot (typing)

Editorial Board: Wavel Barber, Marian Dornhaffer, Bradley Lown, Julia Wells.

EDITOR:

Robert A. Klips
819 Auburn Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222

(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ERT R. MANN
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SEP 26 1985

CA, N.Y. 1

VOLUME 51

JUNE 1985

NUMBER 6

THE MONTH

May was a pleasant, mild month with no major weather disturbances until the 31st when heavy thunderstorms in the early morning and late afternoon brought .92 inches of rainfall in the Buffalo area on this warm and humid day which spawned tornados in Southwest Chautauqua County and also in Northwestern Pennsylvania where loss of life and property damage was high. Prior to this tragic event, a series of weak fronts passing through our area brought a few thunderstorms but generally sunny and mild weather. As may be imagined, meteorological conditions were not conducive to dramatic numbers of migrants being forced down in our study area by weather fronts and observers commented on the low number of individual birds encountered afield this month. The average temperature for the period was 59.5°(F), 3.4 above the norm and rainfall at Buffalo measured 3.46 inches, .57 inches above average; 1.04 inches of this amount were recorded in heavy thunderstorms and intermittent rain on May 6th. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

If numbers were disappointing, certainly the variety of species and rarities seen in our study area in May made it one of the most memorable. Double-crested Cormorants are one of several species of hitherto uncommon birds showing a marked increase in numbers on the Niagara Frontier and the Society's May Bird Count provides a useful illustration of this trend. A record high total of 40 cormorants was tallied on the count date. In addition to records from observation points on Lake Erie, Vivian Pitzrick saw a Double-crested Cormorant at Amity Lake in Allegany County on May 8th and Theodore and Flora Elderkin observed one in Allegany State Park on the 15th. Five Great Egrets were seen in the Oak Orchard area on the May Bird Count in addition to single birds at both the Tonawanda Game Management Area and the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge throughout the month. A Great Egret was also reported at the marsh on Hammond Road in the Town of Eden on May 13th. On May 10th, Dave Gagne and Dave Dister observed a

rare vagrant, an adult Yellow-crowned Night Heron perched in a tree and feeding in the shallows of the grassy shore of the pond in the Burgeson Sanctuary on Riverside Road in the Town of Kiantone in Chautauqua County. The bird's distinctive field marks, white cheek patches and crown and its yellow forehead were clearly seen. On May 13th, Theodore and Flora Elderkin made an early morning excursion to the sanctuary to see this rare wader and they were rewarded with the sight of two adult Yellow-crowned Night Herons but the second bird could not be located again. On May 4th, another uncommon spring vagrant, an adult Glossy Ibis in breeding plumage was seen by Bruce Chilton feeding in the shallows of a pond in a field on the Meadville Road in the Tonawanda Game Management Area in Niagara County. This bird was also seen later on this date by William Watson. An uncommon spring migrant in this area, a Brant was reported by Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter at Morgan's Point, Ontario on May 27th.

On May 5th, Alan Smith of St. Catharines, Ontario was observing birds from the small wooden walkway in the southeast corner of the marsh at the Mud Lake Sanctuary in the City of Port Colborne when he saw a large rail in the shallow water north of the walkway. Smith observed the bird for 30 seconds with his binoculars before it disappeared in nearby rushes and identified it as a King Rail, a very uncommon marsh dweller of uncertain status in our study area; he noted the rail's rust colored breast and neck and belly striped with black. Efforts to lure the bird back into view or to respond later by means of taped calls proved unsuccessful. On May 14th, Dave Cooper was enroute to Rochester on N.Y. Route #18 in the Town of Yates in Orleans County when his attention was attracted to a large crane-like gray bird foraging among rows of corn stubble in a field next to the highway. Stopping to confirm identification with binoculars of what he had first assumed to be a Great Blue Heron, Cooper immediately recognized the bird as an adult Sandhill Crane, the red crown patch and dark legs being clearly visible. In spite of the highest water level in Lake Erie in 18 years, the spring shorebird migration along the north shore was not lacking in interest but numbers of individual birds were dramatically lower than average. The mudflats of the sewage lagoons at Smithville in West Lincoln Township, Ontario and at the Burgeson Sanctuary ponds in the Town of Kiantone in Chautauqua County proved to be far more rewarding sites. A flock of 82 Semipalmated Sandpipers was seen at Smithville during a BOS field trip on May 26th. This trip also coincided with a large Whimbrel flight on Lake Erie on that date; participants saw 38 of these curlews at Erie Beach in the Town of Fort Erie and six more at Rock Point Provincial Park. Later on that date, the writer and his son saw 12 Whimbrels flying past Rock Point. Whimbrels were also reported as migrants in Chautauqua County where four were seen at Mayville on May 24th. On May 1st, Willie D'Anna and his party saw four Purple Sandpipers in breeding plumage feeding in the shallow water at the shore of Goat Island in the upper Niagara River at Niagara Falls. Presumably, they are the same birds that wintered in this location this past season.

On May 26th, Dave Gagne found an adult Laughing Gull resting on a breakwall in the company of a flock of ring-billed and Herring

Gulls at Barcelona Harbor on Lake Erie in the Town of Westfield in Chautauqua County. The bird was resplendent in breeding plumage with its prominent red bill, dark gray mantle and darker primary feathers clearly identifying it. The gravel bar at the mouth of Dutch Hollow Creek at Greenhurst on Chautauqua Lake where a very early migrant Black-bellied Plover was seen in April was also the scene of the discovery of three Forster's Terns associated with a flock of Common Terns in May. Dave Gagne and his party found one Forster's Tern there on the 18th, a bird in molt. On May 21st, Gagne and Flora and Theodore Elderkin saw two other Forster's Terns in the flock both of which were described as further advanced in plumage pattern toward maturity than the bird seen on the 18th.

In recent years, the occurrence of Great Horned Owls in suburban areas of Erie County has become commonplace with breeding pairs established in almost every woodlot affording a degree of concealment during the nesting season; their presence there is raucously advertised by crows, another remarkable species that has successfully adapted to suburban and urban habitats in Western New York. Nonetheless, the discovery of a nesting pair of Great Horned Owls in a solitary ornamental Bald Cypress on the road next to the crematorium in the Forest Lawn Cemetery in the center of Buffalo was greeted with surprise by everyone in April as the site lacks any concealment and the nest was in plain view of passers-by. The owls successfully brooded two young birds which were still not fledged when the nest fell to the ground on May 15th. The young birds survived the fall and they were given to the SPCA. Pellets cast by the adult owls before the mishap were recovered from underneath the nest tree; an analysis of their contents revealed that the owls had been sustaining their brood on a diet of Norway Rats, meadow voles (Microtus sp.) and an Eastern Cottontail Rabbit. Thus ended the adventures of what Art Clark aptly termed "the Inner City Owls".

Once again this year, Acadian Flycatchers were seen in the brushy habitat known as Wheeler's Gulf in the Town of Pomfret in Chautauqua County where Terry Mosher saw three of them on May 25th, one bird carrying nesting material. It is hoped that a breeding population is established there. On the BOS Bird Count on May 19th, David Keller saw and heard an Acadian Flycatcher in a deciduous woods in the Town of Stafford in Genesee County and Grace O'Dell reported two in the Zoar Valley on May 28th.

White-eyed Vireos were prominent among the noteworthy birds reported in May. Grace O'Dell identified one in Buffalo on May 1st and Frances Rew saw this vireo among a flock of migrant warblers in the Town of Pomfret on the 20th. There was an unverified report of a White-eyed Vireo at Lake Erie Beach in the Town of Fort Erie on May 11th. On May 23rd Dave Gagne and his group found a rare and unmistakable hybrid, a male Lawrence's Warbler in full song from a perch in a tree in an overgrown field on Daily Hill Road in the Town of Kennedy in Chautauqua County. The bird sang a typical Blue-winged Warbler's song but Gagne detected a variation in the "longer and drawn out ending".

Once again in 1985, a singing male Clay-colored Sparrow was seen in the shrubbery of an overgrown field adjacent to the Dunkirk-Fredonia Airport on the Van Buren Road in the Town of Pomfret. It is the fourth consecutive year that a singing male of this rare local summer resident has been observed in spring at this location and it has given rise to speculation that an incipient breeding colony, hitherto undetected, may be discovered. The sparrow was first seen by Frances Rew on May 13th when she heard the distinctive 'buzzy' song of this species while walking through the heavy underbrush. She located the bird perched some five feet from the ground in a 15 foot shrub and noted the distinctive brown ear patch bordered in black and the median white stripe on the crown flanked by two brown stripes. A pair of Orchard Orioles engaged in mating displays was seen by Dave Gagne and Dave Dister on Pierce Run Road in the Town of South Valley in Cattaraugus County on May 13th. An adult pair of Orchard Orioles was also reported on the BOS May Bird Count from the back yard on the residence of Jeanine Flory on Berry Road in the Village of Fredonia where two adults of this species were observed feeding a fledged young bird in July, 1982. Tim Baird reported an immature Orchard Oriole in trees on the bank of the Allegheny River at Salamanca in May and Dolly Rewinski recorded the activities of a breeding pair of Orchard Orioles which constructed a nest in a lilac bush in her yard in the hamlet of Shongo in the Town of Willing in Allegany County.

Reports received at the Buffalo Museum of Science in May tell of the finding by Dave Dister and Linda O'Brien of three Red Crossbills in the evergreen plantation of the State Reforestation Area on the Mount Pleasant Road in the Town of Sherman in Chautauqua County on May 12th and 33 Red Crossbills and 20 White-winged Crossbills were seen there on the 22nd by Dister. Clarence Klingensmith continues to report sightings of Red Crossbills in the Village of Alfred in Allegany County for the third consecutive month.

Finally, the May 1985 Bird Count of the Buffalo Ornithological Society yielded some interesting results not commented on previously in this column. A total of 14,342 Ring-billed Gulls, an all time high figure for this count, were reported. This is surely conservative and not indicative of the proliferation of this pest on the Niagara Frontier in the past decade. The good news concerns the record high count of Eastern Bluebirds - 208 birds which is a good indicator of the success of this thrush in reestablishing itself as a breeding species in the northeast.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

MAY NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates of localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

Volume 51, No. 6 "May Noteworthy Records" cont.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Common Loon	May	5	1 over Buffalo Harbor	Andrle
D.-crested Cormorant	"	8	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	15	1 Allegany S.P.	Elderkins
	"	26	1 L.Erie Shore, Ont.	Cooper,
	"			Schaffner (BOS)
	"	27	5 Morgan's Pt, Ont.	D'Anna,
	"			Potter
American Bittern	"	4	1 Tiffit Farm NP	Chilton,
	"			Cooper
	"	5	1 Tiffit Farm NP	Andrle et
	"	12	1 Tiffit Farm NP	Brock (BOS)
	"	15	1 Tiffit Farm NP	Rew
*Least Bittern	"	15F	1 Tiffit Farm NP	Rew
	"	21	2 Tiffit Farm NP	O'Dell
	"	30	1 Times Beach, Buffalo	Andrle
Great Egret	"	18	1 Tonawanda WMA	Chilton
*Y.-cr. Night-Heron	"	10, 11	1, 1 Burgeson WS	Dister,
	"			Gagne
	"	12	1 Fredonia College Camp	Mosher
	"			Bowser et
	"	13	2 Burgeson WS	Elderkins
*Glossy Ibis	"	4	1 Tonawanda WMA	Chilton,
	"			Watson
Tundra Swan	"	10L	1 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Mute Swan	"	4	1 Tiffit Farm NP	Cooper
	"	12	1 Tiffit Farm NP	Brock (BOS)
*Brant	"	27F	1 Morgan's Pt, Ont.	D'Anna,
	"			Potter
No. Shoveler	"	18	1 Tonawanda WMA	Hess
Gadwall	"	18	2 Tonawanda WMA	Hess
American Wigeon	"	26	1 L.Erie shore, Ont.	Cooper,
	"			Schaffner (BOS)
Lesser Scaup	"	1-31	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Oldsquaw	"	11L	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Hooded Merganser	"	8L	1 Forest Lawn, Buffalo	Hess
Common Merganser	"	1-31	7-26 Amity Lake	Pitzrick,
	"			Adams
	"	4	2 Amity Twp.	Burtens
Red-br. Merganser	"	26	1 L.Erie shore, Ont.	Cooper,
	"			Schaffner (BOS)
Osprey	"	2	1 Amity Twp.	Burtens,
	"			Jordan
	"	5, 8	1, 1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	21	1 Burgeson WS	Dister
Northern Harrier	"	3	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	17, 22	1, 2 Friendship Twp.	Burtens

Volume 51, No. 6 "May Noteworthy Records" cont.

Northern Harrier	May	18	1	Tonawanda WMA	Hess
cont.					
Northern Goshawk	"	22	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
Broad-wing. Hawk	"	1-31	1-10	Amity&Ward Twps.	Pitzrick
	"	4	2	Shongo	Pitzrick(ACBC)
	"	4-14	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	23	1	Amity Twp.	Burtens
*King Rail	"	5	1	Mud Lake, Ont.	A. Smith
Sandhill Crane	"	14	1	Yates Twp.	Cooper
Black-bell. Plover	"	17	1	Kiantone Twp.	Mosher et al
	"	26	9	Smithville, Ont.	Cooper, Schaffner(BOS)
Semipalm. Plover	"	26	12	Smithville, Ont.	Cooper, Schaffner(BOS)
	"	27	2	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
Solitary Sandpiper	"	7	1	Hamburg	Rew
*Whimbrel	"	26F	38	Erie Beach, Ont.	Cooper, Schaffner(BOS)
	"	26F	6	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
Ruddy Turnstone	"	21	22	Bemus Pt.	Elderkins
	"	26	1	Smithville, Ont.	Cooper, Schaffner(BOS)
	"	27	15	Morgan's Pt., Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
Semipalm. Sandpiper	"	26	82	Smithville, Ont.	Cooper, Schaffner(BOS)
	"	27	5	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
*Least Sandpiper	"	6F	26	Burgeson WS	Dister
	"	26	1	Smithville, Ont.	Cooper, Schaffner(BOS)
*W.-rump. Sandpiper	"	17	1	Burgeson WS	Mosher et al
	"	22	3	Burgeson WS	Elderkins
	"	26	2	Smithville, Ont.	Cooper, Schaffner(BOS)
Purple Sandpiper	"	1	4	Goat Island	D'Anna et al
Short-b. Dowitcher	"	10F	28	Burgeson WS	Gagne et al
Dunlin	"	11F	6	Burgeson WS	Dister
	"	17	4	Burgeson WS	Mosher et al
	"	26	9	Smithville, Ont.	Cooper, Schaffner(BOS)
Laughing Gull	"	26	1	Barcelona	Gagne
Caspian Tern	"	21	5	Greenhurst	Elderkins
	"	25	1	Times Beach, Buffalo	Andrle et al
*Forster's Tern	"	21	2	Greenhurst	Elderkins, Gagn
*Black-b. Cuckoo	"	13F-31	1-3	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	"	17	2	Cold Spring Twp.	Mosher et al
	"	17	1	Burgeson WS	Mosher et al
*Yellow-b. Cuckoo	"	8F	1	Burgeson WS	Dister
	"	15, 31	1, 1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	"	8F-31	2-4	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	8F-31	2-3	Belmont	Burtens
	"	14	8	Celoron	Elderkins
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	6-28	1	Lewiston	Cooper
*Olive-s. Flycatcher	"	14F	1	Times Beach, Buffalo	O'Dell
	"	26	1	Point Abino, Ont.	Cooper, Schaffner(BOS)

Volume 51, No.6 "May Noteworthy Records" cont.

*E. Wood Pewee	May	12F	1	Tifft Farm NP	Brock(BOS)
	"	14	1	Times Beach, Buffalo	O'Dell
Yellow-b. Flycatcher	"	26	1	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
*Acadian Flycatcher	"	25F	3	Wheeler's Gulf	Mosher et al
(Previously documented breeding area.)					
*Alder Flycatcher	"	13F-31	1-9	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	17	1	Cold Spring Twp.	Mosher et al
*Willow Flycatcher	"	14F	1	Burgeson WS	Gagne
	"	15	1	Burgeson WS	Dister
	"	17	1	Cold Spring Twp.	Mosher et al
*Least Flycatcher	"	1F-31	3-10	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	6	1	Buffalo	O'Dell
*Gr. Cr. Flycatcher	"	6F	1	Delaware Pk, Buffalo	O'Dell
	"	6F-31	2-4	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	"	7	1	Springville	O'Dell
Eastern Kingbird	"	5	1	Colden	O'Dell
	"	5-31	1-6	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Bank Swallow	"	23	40+	Scio	Pitzrick
	"	27	6	Cattaraugus Co.	A+O Rosche
Cliff Swallow	"	19	10	Portland Twp.	Mosher
	"	26	1	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-31	1-4	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	22	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
Brown Creeper	"	8	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	13,29	1,1	Wales	O. Rosche
	"	21	1	Tifft Farm NP	O'Dell
	"	22	6	Alfred	Klingensmith
Marsh Wren	"	14F	2	Iroquois NWR	Jones
	"	25	1	Arkwright Twp.	Mosher et al
Rudy-cr. Kinglet	"	10L	2	Wales	O. Rosche
Eastern Bluebird	"	5,26	1,1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	"	7	3	Stockton Twp.	Mosher, Chilton
	"	17	3	S. Valley Twp.	Mosher et al
	"	17	6	Carroll Twp.	Mosher et al
	"	18,23,31	1,1,2	Amity Twp.	Burtens
	"	25	1	Villanova Twp.	Mosher
	"	31	44	Amity L. & Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	31	2	Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
*Veery	"	4F	1	Tifft Farm NP	Cooper
	"	13-31	1-2	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Gray-ch. Thrush	"	14F,15	1,1	Buffalo	Hess
	"	26	2	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
*Swainson's Thrush	"	3F	1	Forest Lawn, Buffalo	O'Dell
	"	9	2	Wales	O. Rosche
N. Mockingbird	"	26	1	Lake Erie Shore, Ont.	Cooper, Schaffner(BOS)
Water Pipet	"	1,2	17,20	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	"	8,9L	30,15	Wales	O. Rosche
	"	29	1	Pomfret Twp.	Gagne et al
White-eyed Vireo	"	20	1	Pomfret Twp.	Rew
Yellow-thr. Vireo	"	6	1	Dunkirk	Chilton
Warbling Vireo	"	4	1	Tifft Farm NP	Cooper
	"	4	1	Shongo	Pitzrick(ACBC)
*Philadelphia Vireo	"	16F	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher

Volume 51, No. 6 "May Noteworthy Records" cont.

*Philadelphia Vireo	May	17	3	Cold Springs Twp.	Mosher et al
cont.	"	18	1	Hamburg	Rew
*Red-eyed Vireo	"	7F	1	Springville	O'Dell
"	"	11	2	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Golden-w. Warbler	"	17	4-5	Cold Spring Twp.	Mosher et al
"	"	20, 29	1, 3	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*"Brewster's" Warbler	"	29	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*"Lawrence's" Warbler	"	23	1	Kennedy	Gagne et al
Tennessee Warbler	"	5	2	Pt. Gratiot	Mosher
*Orange-cr. Warbler	"	14	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
*Northern Parula	"	16F	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	"	22	2	Alfred	Klingensmith
Chesnut-s. Warbler	"	1	1	Buffalo	O'Dell
*Magnolia Warbler	"	6F	1	Dunkirk	Chilton
"	"	8	1	Buffalo	O'Dell
*Cape May Warbler	"	9F	2	Cheektowaga	O'Dell
"	"	26	1	L. Erie shore, Ont.	Cooper, Schaffner(BOS)
*Bl.-thr. Blue Warbler	"	4F	1	Tifft Farm NP	Cooper
"	"	7	1	Springville	O'Dell
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	21L	1	Tifft Farm NP	O'Dell
Blackburnian Warbler	"	7	1	Springville	O'Dell
Prarie Warbler	"	5	1	Pt. Gratiot	Mosher
"	"	27	1	Carroll Twp.	Gagne et al
"	10-22, 29	1-3, 3	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick	
*Bay-br. Warbler	"	6F	8	Delaware Pk, Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	10	1	Canadaway Cr. NS	Mosher
*Blackpoll Warbler	"	15F, 21	1, 3	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	19	8	Chautauqua	Dister, O'Brien
*Cerulean Warbler	"	17F	8-10	Cold Spring, S. Valley	Mosher et al
"	"	25	1-2	Wheeler's Gulf	Mosher et al
Bl.-&-w. Warbler	"	22	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
American Redstart	"	6-31	2-7	Amity L. & Twp.	Pitzrick
*Ovenbird	"	2F	1	Forest Lawn, Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	4	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
N. Waterthrush	"	4	2	Wales	O. Rosche
"	"	6	2	Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	7	3	Springville	O'Dell
"	"	22	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
La. Waterthrush	"	6	2	Orchard Park	O'Dell
"	"	7, 11	1, 1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Mourning Warbler	"	11F	1	Burgeson WS	Dister
"	"	14-29	2-4	Wales	O. Rosche
*Common Yellowthroat	"	2F	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	"	4	1	Shongo	Pitzrick(ACBC)
"	"	4-31	2-4	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Hooded Warbler	"	5F	1	Fredonia College	Camp Mosher
"	"	12-31	2-4	Wales	O. Rosche
*Wilson's Warbler	"	16F	1	Ft. Niagara SP	D'Anna, Potter
*Canada Warbler	"	4F	1	Burgeson WS	Dister
"	"	12, 13	1, 1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Yellow-br. Chat	"	20, 22	2, 1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Scarlet Tanager	"	6F	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	"	6F	2	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick

Volume 51, No. 6 "May Noteworthy Records" cont.

*Scarlet Tanager	May	7	1 Springville	O'Dell
cont.				
*Indigo Bunting	"	7F	1 Springville	O'Dell
	"	13-31	2-8 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Clay-col. Sparrow	"	13	1 Pomfret Twp.	Rew.
	"	18	1 Pomfret Twp.	Gagne et al
	"	30	1 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher, Benton
Grasshopper Sparrow	"	13	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Henslow's Sparrow	"	6F	1 Kiantone Twp.	Dister
	"	13,14	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	25	1 Arkwright Twp.	Mosher
*Lincoln's Sparrow	"	4F	2 Tifft Farm NP	Andrle et al
	"	9	1 Tifft Farm NP	Rew
	"	12	1 Ft. Niagara SP	D'Anna, Potter
	"	13	2 Times Beach, Buffalo	Hess
	"	16	2 Tifft Farm NP	Rew et al
	"	26L	2 Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
Bobolink	"	5	5 Sardinia	O'Dell
*Orchard Oriole	"	13	1 S. Valley Twp.	Dister, Elderkins
	"			Gagne et al
	"	17	2 S. Valley Twp.	Chilton, Mosher et
Northern Oriole	"	5-31	2-8 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Red Crossbill	"	4,10	12,2 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	19,22,30	3,33,10 Sherman	Dister, O'Brien
White-w. Crossbill	"	22	20 Sherman	Dister
Pine Siskin	"	5	2 Amity Lake	Pitzrick

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....191
 Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue..... 59
 (including 10 on count)
 Total for year.....250

ERRATA

Prothonotary, vol. 51:4,

page 53: Laughing Gull should be underlined.

page 54:

Water Pipit	March	30	<u>500</u> Town of Amity	Pitzrick
should be:				
Cedar Waxwing	March	30	<u>500</u> Town of Amity	Pitzrick.
page 54:				
Cedar Waxwing	March	21	1 Town of Amity	Burtens
should be:				
Shrike Sp.	March	21	1 Town of Amity	Burtens.

REPORT OF MAY 1985 BIRD COUNT

. Date: May 19, 1985

Compiler: Robert W. Brock

Weather: The temperatures varied from morning lows around 40 degrees F. to afternoon highs in the 65 degree F. range. It was generally overcast in the morning but cleared toward after-

noon with partly cloudy or sunny conditions in most sections. The winds increased throughout the day producing problems for observers in many areas.

Compilation: Following is a list of species recorded on the count and the number of each. Underlined names indicate that acceptable written verifications were received. Species reported in three or fewer sections are marked with the B.O.S. section in parentheses.

Loons - Ducks

Common Loon - 5 (6,18,17)	Northern Pintail - 1 (6)
Pied-billed Grebe - 10	Blue-winged Teal - 53
Horned Grebe - 2 (19)	Northern Shoveler - 1 (10)
Double-crested Cormorant - 40	Gadwall - 30
American Bittern - 7	American Wigeon - 30
Great Blue Heron - 231	Redhead - 1 (20)
Great Egret - 5 (10)	Greater Scaup - 6 (8,13)
Green-backed Heron - 63	Lesser Scaup - 5 (11,28)
Black-crowned Night-Heron - 10	Olsquaw - 214
Tundra Swan - 3 (5,7)	Surf Scoter - 8 (4)
Canada Goose - 1,038	Common Goldeneye - 4 (27)
Wood Duck - 125	Bufflehead - 2 (6,9)
Green-winged Teal - 4 (2,13)	Hooded Merganser - 10
American Black Duck - 15	Common Merganser - 29
Mallard - 1,095	Red-breasted Merganser - 165

Vultures - Cranes

Turkey Vulture - 185	American Kestrel - 102
Osprey - 6	Red-necked Pheasant - 35
Northern Harrier - 25	Ruffed Grouse - 41
Sharp-shinned Hawk - 12	Wild Turkey - 22
Cooper's Hawk - 13	Virginia Rail - 5 (7,13)
Northern Goshawk - 1 (28)	Sora - 10
Red-shouldered Hawk - 19	Common Moorhen - 19
Broad-winged Hawk - 27	American Coot - 25
Red-tailed Hawk - 168	

Shore Birds

Semipalmated Plover - 29	Semipalmated Sandpiper - 45
Killdeer - 571	Least Sandpiper - 61
Greater Yellowlegs - 6 (1,2,19)	White-rumped Sandpiper - 3(5,23)
Lesser Yellowlegs - 17	Dunlin - 53 (1,10)
Solitary Sandpiper - 15	Short-billed Dowitcher - 5(1,13)
Spotted Sandpiper - 89	Common Snipe - 28
Upland Sandpiper - 11	American Woodcock - 23
Ruddy Turnstone - 15 (21,26)	Wilson's Phalarope - 1 (2)

Gulls - Flycatchers

Bonaparte's Gull - 20
Ring-billed Gull - 14,342
Herring Gull - 879
Great Black-backed Gull - 28
Caspian Tern - 2 (6)
Common Tern - 55
Black Tern - 6 (10)
Rock Dove - 1,244
Mourning Dove - 1,125
Black-billed Cuckoo - 38
Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 9
Eastern Screech Owl - 2 (19,21)
Great Horned Owl - 15
Barred Owl - 6
Common Nighthawk - 20
Chimney Swift - 282
Ruby-throated Hummingbird - 88

Belted Kingfisher - 85
Red-headed Woodpecker - 21
Red-bellied Woodpecker - 15
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 16
Downy Woodpecker - 164
Hairy Woodpecker - 67
Northern Flicker - 274
Pileated Woodpecker - 19
Eastern Wood-Pewee - 53
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher -
10 (19,20)
Acadian Flycatcher - 1 (13)
Alder Flycatcher - 23
Willow Flycatcher - 50
Least Flycatcher - 171
Eastern Phoebe - 174
Great Crested Flycatcher - 226
Eastern Kingbird - 378

Larks - Thrushes

Horned Lark - 16
H. Lark (E.a. praticola) - 27 (4,13,23)
Purple Martin - 463
Tree Swallow - 2,823
N. Rough-winged Swallow - 320
Bank Swallow - 1,019
Cliff Swallow - 85
Barn Swallow - 2,662
Blue Jay - 761
American Crow - 1,425
Black-capped Chickadee - 583
Tufted Titmouse - 9
Red-breasted Nuthatch - 11
White-breasted Nuthatch - 118
Brown Creeper - 20
House Wren - 383

Winter Wren - 3 (6,22,23)
Sedge Wren - 1 (5)
Marsh Wren - 25
Golden cr. Kinglet - 13 (13,23,28)
Ruby-cr. Kinglet - 5 (4,13,20)
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 7
Eastern Bluebird - 208
Veery - 94
Gray-cheeked Thrush - 1 (6)
Swainson's Thrush - 13
Hermit Thrush - 26
Wood Thrush - 301
American Robin - 7,436
Gray Catbird - 732
Northern Mockingbird - 5 (1,3)
Brown Thrasher - 54

Waxwings - Warblers

Cedar Waxwing - 368
European Starling - 6,007
White-eyed Vireo - 2 (13)
Solitary Vireo - 17
Yellow-throated Vireo - 12
Warbling Vireo - 205
Philadelphia Vireo - 3 (20,22)
Red-eyed Vireo - 437
Blue-winged Warbler - 114
Golden-winged Warbler - 7 (10,23)
Brewster's Warbler - 1 (22)

Yellow-rumped Warbler - 72
Black-throated Green Warbler -
101
Blackburnian Warbler - 104
Pine Warbler - 1 (14)
Prairie Warbler - 10 (19,20,28)
Palm Warbler - 1 (11)
Bay-breasted Warbler - 93
Blackpoll Warbler - 21
Cerulean Warbler - 20
Black-and-white Warbler - 15

Waxwings - Warblers cont.

Tennessee Warbler - 182
Orange-cr. Warbler - 2 (6,20)
Nashville Warbler - 38
Northern Parula - 2 (13,28)
Yellow Warbler - 1,559
Chesnut-sided Warbler - 184
Magnolia Warbler - 95
Cape May Warbler - 10
Black-throated Blue Warbler - 15

American Redstart - 196
Prothonotary Warbler - 1 (10)
Ovenbird - 149
Northern Waterthrush - 32
Louisiana Waterthrush - 5
Mourning Warbler - 48
Common Yellowthroat - 660
Hooded Warbler - 58
Wilson's Warbler - 15
Canada Warbler - 40

Tanagers - House Sparrows

Scarlet Tanager - 137
Northern Cardinal - 506
Rose-breasted Grosbeak - 380
Indigo Bunting - 329
Rufous-sided Towhee - 162
Chipping Sparrow - 862
Field Sparrow - 228
Vesper Sparrow - 24
Savannah Sparrow - 231
Grasshopper Sparrow - 11
Henslow's Sparrow - 3 (28)
Song Sparrow - 1,632
Swamp Sparrow - 127
White-throated Sparrow - 21
White-crowned Sparrow - 33
Dark-eyed Junco - 127

Bobolink - 1,034
Red-winged Blackbird - 5,957
Eastern Meadowlark - 260
Rusty Blackbird - 12
Common Grackle - 5,204
Brown-headed Cowbird - 815
Orchard Oriole - 3
Northern Oriole - 862
Purple Finch - 218
House Finch - 860
Red Crossbill - 3 (22)
Pine Siskin - 57 (19,26,28)
American Goldfinch - 2,164
Evening Grosbeak - 2 (28)
House Sparrow - 2,554

Total Species - 200 (÷1 hybrid)

Total Individuals - 80,186

The compiler thanks each of the Section Compilers and their observers for the fine work in conducting the 1985 May Bird Count and submitting census reports and verification reports.

Sections and Observers: In the list that follows, compilers' names are underlined.

1. Fonthill, Ont.: David Cooper, Robert Andrle
2. Thorold, Ont.: Gary Novosel
3. Wilson, NY: Walter & Harriette Klabunde, Charles Dishaw, Jim Moreland
4. Middleport, NY: Robert Brock, William Watson
5. Oak Orchard, NY: Dick Christensen, Peggy Christensen, Bill Townsend, Marion Smith, Charlotte Pratt
6. Port Maitland, Ont.: Ed Williams
7. Lowbank, Ont.: Drew Campbell
8. Fort Erie, Ont.: Willie D'Anna & Betsy Potter
9. Grand Island, NY: Karen Renning, Roberta McDonald, Stanley King, Ed Crohn, Jack Wright, Marge Wright

Sections and Observers cont.

10. Akron, NY: Robert Wagner
11. Buffalo, NY: Julia Wells, Alice McKale, Pauline Schwartz, Charles & Barbara Halvorsen
12. Lancaster, NY: Marie Wendling, Ann Bauer, Dorothy & Fred Danner, Ray Franz, Tom Harper, Cy Wolfing
13. Batavia, NY: Max & Jane Mason, David Keller, George Mahany, Don Thureau, Dave Thompson, Bob & Eileen Hull, Alice McKale
14. Hamburg, NY: Pam McNeil, Rod McNeil, Ken Brandes, Barbara Howard, Sharon Measer, Mrs. Hanley
15. Java, NY: William Bogacki, Esther Becker, Marion Bee, Hans Kunze, Olga Roosche
16. Angola, NY: Vivien Souden, Mike Turisk, Fran Rew, Lois Buck
17. Cattaraugus, NY: Wavel & Maxine Barber, Audrey Horbett, Carolyn Frank, Francis Frank
18. Delevan, NY: Don & Jane Clark
19. Fillmore, NY: Allegany County Bird Club, Katherine Palmer, Donald Goodsell, Mr. & Mrs. Howard Lang, Jane Moore, Harland Hale, Faye Clancy Ron Andrews, Josephine Main, Helen Morse, Jean Perry, Vesta Rice, Emmette Smith, Victor Carpenter, Alice Evans, Larry Mullen, Mr. & Mrs. Marion Spencer, Larry Wilson, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Wilson, Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Williams, Nancy Hooker, Lowell Smith
20. Dunkirk, NY: Lake Erie Bird Club, Allen Benton, Chris Benton, Marge Benton, Nancy Bowser, Joyce Cullen, Jeanine Flory, Joe Gula, Greg Harper, Phil Kumler, Terry Mahoney, Judy Mosher, Terry Mosher, Lucille Neveu, Tina Rausa, Marty Sanden, Ruth Steese, Doris Welch, Tom Welch
21. Cherry Creek, NY: Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, David Gagne, Julia Heilman, Dorothy Pihlblad, Mary AnneReiber-Davis, Carol Roby, Susan Suckow
22. Sherman, NY: Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, David Cooney, David Dister, Flora Elderkin, David Gagne, William & Linda O'Brien, Elizabeth Pillsbury
23. Frewsburg, NY: Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, David Cooney, Daniel Cordosi, Flora Elderkin, David Gagne, Frank Gardner, Stephen Maggio, Joanne Nelson, Jean Pigman, Elizabeth Pillsbury, Robert & Mary Shaul, Thomas Simmons Jr., Thomas Simmons Sr.
24. Allegany State Park, NY: John & Mary Forness, Tim Baird
25. Allegany, NY: Tim Baird, Dorothy Baker, Lucille Bordonaro, Stephen Eaton, Charles Green, Margaret Green, Alene Johnson, Fred Meyer
26. Cuba, NY: Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Ann Scott, Lou Burton, Mary Jordan, Bob & Bruce Smalley, Betty & John Compton, Sylvia Foster, Floris Light
27. Bolivar, NY: Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Helen Link, Dolly Rewinski, Helen Apsey, Norman Ives, Doris Hurlburt, Emma Lou King, Lillian & Stella Simons, Marjorie & Robert Richmond, Frances DeGroff, Wilma Sanford, Sharon Baumgardner
28. Alfred, NY: Allegany County Bird Club, Clarence Klingensmith, Vivian Pitzrick, Erma Larson, Elizabeth Brooks, Jim & Paulette Copenheaver, Lavinia Creighton, Ann & Bob Eisenhardt, Peter & Terry Finlay, Eva Ford, Margaret Klingensmith, Kathy MacDonald, Ruth Paige, Agnes & Everett Rhodes, Allen & Mary Ormsby, Anne & Robert Pipal, Dan Rase, John & Suzanne Wood, Cynthia & Paul Culley, Ellen Lamb, Harriet &

Volume 51, No. 6 "Report of May Bird Count" cont.

Sections and Observers cont.

28. Alfred NY cont.: Larry Deverell, Russel Allen, Dorothy & Fred Bayless, Esther Biehl, Don, Lorna & Tara Brink, Vivian Brownell, Martha DeLaVergne, Jay & Louise Gibson, Mildred Hayes, Fay & Ben Heller, Viola Ide, Bob & Marjorie Mason, Ed & Margorie Mason, Linn Phelan, Violet Sharrett, Maureen & Lauren Soule, Allen & Gladys Witter, Visner Cook, Kathy Kent, Ken McClure, Connor Stevens, Bea Thompson, Bill Walker, Harold Ward, Mallery & Mary Adams, Doris & Lou Burtons, Clifford Button, Raymond Pitzrick, James Valente, Roberta Clark, Evelyn Coats, Paul & Mary Alice Fuller, Claribel James, Martin McQueen, Ernest & Lynn Rositzke, Theodore Vossler, Mrs. Ira Brown, Mrs. Blair Buchholz, Mr. & Mrs. Carl Burdick, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Cronauer, Helen Graves, Ona Reynolds, Mrs. Norbert Shear, Dr. & Mrs. Harvey Spencer, Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Taggart, Mrs. Gordon Taggart, Mrs. William Thompson

Comments from comparing the 1985 May Bird Count with past May count records, starting in 1935:

Common Loon - 5; Tied for 10 year low. Double-crested Cormorant - 40; All time high. Great Egret - 5; All time high. Tundra Swan - 3; Tied for 10 year high. Mute Swan - 3; Ten year high. Canada Goose - 1,038; All time high. Mallard - 1,095; All time high. Gadwall - 30; All time high. Common Merganser - 29; Ten year high. Turkey Vulture - 185; All time high. Northern Harrier - 25; Ten year high. Peregrine Falcon 1; Ten year high. Upland Sandpiper - 11; Tied for ten year high. White-rumped Sandpiper - 3; Ten year high. Pectoral Sandpiper - 0; Tied for all time low. Ring-billed Gull - 14,342; All time high. Herring Gull - 879; Ten year high. Forster's Tern - 1; Tied for ten year high. Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 9; Tied for ten year high. Great Horned Owl - 15; Tied for ten year low. Chimney Swift - 282; Ten year low. Red-headed Woodpecker - 21; Ten year low. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher - 10; Ten year high. Acadian Flycatcher - 1; Tied for ten year high. Great Crested Flycatcher - 226; Ten year high. Purple Martin - 463; Ten year low. Red-breasted Nuthatch - 11; Ten year low. Marsh Wren - 25; Ten year high. Golden-crowned Kinglet - 13; Tied for ten year high. Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 5; Ten year low. Eastern Bluebird -

Volume 51, No. 6 "Report of May Bird Count" cont.

Comments cont.

Eastern Bluebird - 208; All time high. Swainson's Thrush - 13; Ten year low. American Robin - 7,436; All time high. Brown Thrasher - 54; Ten year low. Water Pipit - 0; Tied for all time low. Warbling Vireo - 205; All time high. Nashville Warbler - 38; Ten year low. Black-throated Blue Warbler - 15; Tied for ten year low. Yellow-rumped Warbler - 72; Ten year low. Black-throated Green Warbler - 101; Ten year low. Lawrence's Warbler - 1; Second record ever. Cerulean Warbler - 20; Ten year high. American Redstart - 196; Ten year high. Mourning Warbler - 48; All time high. Hooded Warbler - 58; Ten year high. Yellow-breasted Chat - 0; Tied for all time low. Indigo Bunting - 329; All time high. Rufous-sided Towhee - 162; Ten year low. Henslow's Sparrow - 3; Tied for ten year low. White-throated Sparrow - 21; Ten year low. Red-winged Blackbird - 5,957; Ten year low. Eastern Meadowlark - 260; Ten year low. House finch - 860; All time high. Red Crossbill - 3; Ten year high. Evening Grosbeak - 2; Ten year low.

104 Fordham Drive
Buffalo NY 14216

BOS "Shorebird Trip", May 26, 1985

Before the day arrived I feared this trip would conclude with a changed name for lack of shorebirds. Water levels in Lake Erie had been higher than in several years with not much shore available to the shorebirds we wanted to study. Early in the day we decided to change the trip name but for a different reason.

Looking ahead from the woods at Fort Erie Beach down the path and through the opening to the water a flock of low flying birds was seen by the end of the old stone pier. For those who missed them these birds accommodated by wheeling about and coming back at a higher altitude a few seconds later. Some say they counted 37, and some say they counted 38, and one said there were 40 individuals. We all agreed they were Whimbrels. Thus the name "Whimbrel Trip". Sightings of Whimbrels by BOS reporters had been down or absent in the past couple of years.

A little farther down the beach we looked out at a distant flock of birds over the water. It was not possible to absolutely identify what was taken as 10 Brant. A Canada Goose flew by in the foreground. Ruddy Turnstones patrolled the shore.

Since Art Schaffner, the co-leader, had scouted the minimal amount of shore at Rock Point Park the day before, we decided to go to Smithville next. We were not disappointed there either by 3 White-rumped Sandpipers, 1 Least Sandpiper, Spotted Sandpipers, 82 Semipalmated Sandpipers, 9 Dunlins, 9 Black-bellied Plovers, 12 Semipalmated Plovers, Killdeer and more Ruddy Turnstones.

There were also several species of Swallows, Purple Martins, Blue-winged Teals, a Wood Duck and Bobolinks.

Several species were added at Mud Lake and Morgan Point for a total seen and heard 82 species and the probable Brants.

David R. Cooper

Editor's Note: Cheap Printer Wanted !

Our The Prothonotary cover sheet in blank form and, starting soon, the address cover sheet, need to be printed separately, in bulk form by, I think, a photo-offset method. It's currently a fairly large ongoing expense; we just spent about \$33 for 2000 copies of the cover sheet. To help the strained newsletter budget, it would be great to have this printing done more cheaply, perhaps even at cost, with the B.O.S. providing paper and whatever else is needed. Does anyone know a friendly printer who would like to help out?

Permission to Bird at Sewage Lagoons

We are pleased to report that the story was false regarding the arrest of two birders at the Smithville Sewage Lagoon. To clarify this matter, the writer called Mr. MacNamara of the Niagara Region Public Works Department in Ontario (1-416-685-1571).

Mr. MacNamara said that he did not object to birders at either the Smithville Lagoon or the Glendale Avenue Lagoon (behind Foster-Wheeler Plant) and will instruct his employees accordingly.

He did say that he had received complaints from the farmer adjacent to the Smithville Lagoon (toward Highway 20) regarding persons climbing over his fence, so birders should respect that property. Also, at the Smithville gate, he would rather we crawled under the fence at the ditch instead of climbing over the fence or gate, since this causes damage. We should cooperate fully in this regard since it is a privilege to be allowed to visit these excellent shorebird and waterfowl feeding places.

Bill Burch
Field Trips Committee Chairman

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

September 11: Summer Birding Experiences of Members. Do something interesting, ornithologically, this summer and come tell all about it at the kick-off meeting for the season. Members are encouraged to bring up to ten slides, or simply share anecdotes.

For further information, contact Barbara Walker, Program Committee Chairman, (649-1241, Hamburg, N.Y.).

FIELD TRIPS

Usually these trips take most of a day so a lunch should be brought.

Sept. 15 Sunday. Dundas Marsh (Cootes Paradise Sanctuary), at Hamilton, Ontario. This vast holding of natural marshes, bays, ponds and woodlands is part of the Royal Botanical Gardens. We expect to find migrating shorebirds, warblers and other autumn birds here. With a N or NW wind a good hawk flight is possible according to Dave Copeland of Hamilton. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge parking lot near the American-side customs offices. Leader: Bruce Chilton (833-9242).

Sept. 21-22 Saturday and Sunday. Presque Isle and Pymatuning Weekend. Joint trip with Buffalo Audubon Society and other clubs. Saturday is at Presque Isle Park near Erie, Pa., 80 miles from Buffalo. This can be a Warbler and Shorebird hot spot. For the Saturday night dinner (about \$7.00) at Linesville, Pa., call Mary Saville (662-5215) for reservations, as well as for motel reservations. The Sunday birding is around the Pymatuning Lake region.

October 11,12,13 Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Federation of New York State Bird Clubs meeting in Buffalo, with BOS as the host club. Leaders will be needed for field trips to Tifft Farm, Niagara Falls, Oak Orchard as well as shorter trips.

October 20 Sunday. October Bird Count. Compiler: Barbara Walker (649-1242)

November 17 Sunday. Niagara River for special gulls and water-fowl. Joint trip with Genesee Ornithological Society and Burroughs-Audubon N.C. Meet at Old Fort Niagara at 9:30 a.m. Leaders: Esther Becker (537-2592) and Bob Spahn (1-671-5690).

For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690; Grand Island N.Y.).

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, New York 14304.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 1412

BACK ISSUES:

Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

\$10.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Pat Cordaro (printing), Lisa Jarnot (typing)

Editorial Board: Wavel Barber, Marian Dornhaffer, Bradley Lown, Julia Wells.

EDITOR:

Robert A. Klips
819 Auburn Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222

(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

THE PROTHONOTARY 1985

ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 51

JULY 1985

NUMBER 7

THE MONTH

June was cloudy and cool with precipitation slightly above average. The average temperature for the month was 66° (F), 3.4° above normal. Rainfall measured 2.72 inches, .57 inches above average. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Once again this year, field work in June for the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas resulted in a number of interesting records from the Southern Tier counties in our study area, some of which are commented upon in the following paragraphs. Preliminary reports concerning the Atlas project indicate that the status of some passerine species hitherto regarded as rare summer residents in Western New York, will be changed; the Acadian Flycatcher comes immediately to mind.

Bob Andrie's research in June on behalf of the U.S. Corps of Engineers at the Times Beach Sanctuary on the Buffalo Waterfront yielded at least one remarkable ornithological find, nesting American Wigeons. On the 24th he observed four adult wigeons and three to five downy young ducklings in the cattail marsh at the west end of the sanctuary. Vivian Pitzrick and Mallery and Mary Adams reported a late Lesser Scaup on Amity Lake in Allegany County on June 2nd and again on the 5th. Dave Dister and Rose Mary Wilcox saw two Caspian Terns, apparently non-breeding wanderers, at the Burgeson Wildlife Sanctuary in the Town of Kiantone in Chautauqua County on June 28th.

At approximately 9:40 p.m. on June 1st, a windless, moonlit night, Frances Rew and Lois Buck were walking by a deciduous woodland on the Lewis Road in the Town of Charlotte in Chautauqua County when they heard the monotonous, repetitive note of a calling Saw-whet Owl issuing from within the woods. Rew is quite familiar with the call of this little owl, a rare summer resident in the Southern Tier counties of Western New York, having heard the long series of short, metallic whistles in innumerable individual notes on many occasions.

This bird called intermittently for about 40 minutes and as the calls seemed quite close at times and then further away. Rew speculated that perhaps two birds were present. At 10:45 p.m. on June 7th, Rew and Buck, accompanied by Art Schaffner, again heard this owl calling from the hardwoods on the west side of Lewis Road while a second Saw-whet Owl responded from a spruce plantation across the road. The owls called for perhaps five minutes and a taped call did not induce them to resume or come nearer to the observers.

Acadian Flycatchers were again reported by several observers in June. On June 11th, Grace O'Dell once again saw this bird in the Zoar Valley in the town of Concord. On the 16th, Esther Becker and Bill Bogacki saw this flycatcher in the Town of Attica in Wyoming County while on the 8th, Terry Mosher and Art Schaffner located an Acadian Flycatcher in a hemlock-beech-maple woods on the grounds of the Fredonia State University College camp in the Town of Stockton by its song. The diagnostic 'pit-see' call of the species was clearly heard. Also on June 8th, Art Schaffner located two more Acadian Flycatchers singing in different locations in the Canadaway Creek Nature Sanctuary in the Town of Pomfret in Chautauqua County. Both birds were located in wooded sections singing the familiar 'pit-see' song with a second, less explosive 'ka-weep' call note. On June 21st, Schaffner heard two adult Acadian Flycatchers in a wooded area on the Saw Mill Run Road in the Town of South Valley in Cattaraugus County, seeing one perched in a hemlock by the side of the run coursing through the woods but only hearing the second bird which he identified by the untypical 'ka-weep' note. The identification was confirmed by Bob Sundell who has had extensive field experience with this bird and its vocalizations.

Elizabeth Brooks documented the presence of no less than 19 territorial male Golden-crowned Kinglets in Allegany County in June, all of which were seen in the spruce plantations on the State Reforestation Lands in the Towns of Ward, Alfred, Almond and West Almond or in the mixed spruce-pine-hardwood plantation on Brown Road in the Town of Ward where six singing males were recorded.

On June 30th, Terry Mosher reported "definitely two and probably three" White-eyed Vireos on Sage Road, two miles southwest of Fredonia in the Town of Pomfret. He saw two vireos, one a singing male, perched in sumac and other road-shrubbery after hearing the characteristic song of this species at this location earlier on this date and finding it impossible to lure the songster into view by the traditional "squeaking" method. Upon returning in the evening, Mosher successfully employed the 'squeak' to call up two White-eyed Vireos, presumably a mated pair, out of the heavy underbrush. Prior to seeing these birds, he heard a second male vireo singing perhaps 150 yards away, apparently on territory but refusing to show itself.

There were many interesting parulid observations in June. The male Lawrence's Warbler first reported from the Dailey Hill Road in the Town of Poland in Chautauqua County in May, was seen again in an overgrown pasture at that location on June 21st by Art Schaffner and Alan Smith. The bird was carrying food to bushes on the edge of a large woodlot where it appeared to be feeding a female Golden-winged Warbler. On June 8th, Bill Burch and Dave Dister saw a male Northern Parula Warbler perched 45 feet up in a tree at the edge of a wooded area on Allegany State Park Route #2 in the Town of Red House in Cattaraugus County. This bird is not infrequently seen in the park and along the bottom lands of the Allegheny River in late spring and early summer but there is no definite

evidence that a breeding population has reestablished itself in southwestern New York since nesting was last confirmed in Allegany State Park by Aretas Saunders in 1921.

An unusual sighting of what must be presumed to be a very late migrant Cape May Warbler was reported by Alan Smith. On June 26th, he and his wife heard a warbler singing in a tall spruce tree to the rear of his home on the Gregory Road in St. Catharines, Ontario which when located by Smith with his binoculars proved to be an adult male Cape May Warbler.

Sightings of Prairie Warblers in southwestern New York State continue to increase and a breeding population is well established in Allegany County. Elizabeth Brooks reports sightings of one or more individuals of this species in June in previously documented breeding areas in the towns of Andover, Ward and Almond. There were two new locations in Allegany County of nesting Prairie Warblers reported by Brooks this year; the first was in a young (4'-12' range) Norway Spruce in the State Reforestation Area on the Vandermark Road in the Town of Ward where she heard a singing male and flushed a female bird off a nest containing four eggs and situated five feet up in the tree. The second new location was in a young conifer plantation on the Middle Road in the Town of Allen where Brooks and her party heard the typical ascending note song of a territorial male Prairie Warbler although they were unable to get a glimpse of the bird. On June 6th, Vivian Pitzrick saw an adult Prairie Warbler feeding a fledgling on the branch of a small Blue Spruce in a plantation on the Irish Settlement Road in the Town of Ward, also a new nesting location. There were also sightings of Prairie Warblers in Chautauqua County. On June 14th, Terry Mosher and his party saw a singing adult male bird and heard a second one in a plantation of small spruce trees in the Town of Carroll.

On June 7th, Terry Mosher saw an adult male Prothonotary Warbler on the brushy border of a swampy woods at the Fredonia State University College camp in the Town of Stockton; the bird was singing at the same location where he saw another male of this species in 1981.

On June 19th, Bob Andrie and Bob Brock were on the Masten Road in the Town of Hinsdale in Cattaraugus County at 6:30 a.m. in the course of their field work in connection with the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas. They heard the rich 'churry, churry, churry' notes of an Oporornis warbler which did not descend at the end in the fashion of the Mourning Warbler. The bird, which was located in a shrub and sapling area at the edge of a verdant beech-maple woodlot, was identified as an adult male Kentucky Warbler, its yellow 'spectacles', distinct black marks on each side of the face and neck and its bright yellow throat pattern were clearly seen. On June 23rd, Dave Dister saw an adult male Kentucky Warbler in the underbrush of an open woods recently decimated by a tornado, south of Woodchuck Road in the Town of Ivory in Chautauqua County. Dister and Frank Gardner saw this warbler a second time on the 30th, during which time it was in full song for approximately thirty minutes.

Mention was made in these pages last month of the sighting of a male Clay-colored Sparrow for the fourth consecutive year in an old field adjacent to the Dunkirk-Fredonia Airport in the Town of Pomfret. As the bird behaved in a territorial manner, speculation as to the possibility of a breeding pair of this rare summer resident was the topic of conversation among local bird-watchers.

On June 7th, Art Schaffner visited the site and saw four Clay-colored Sparrows, two of which were presumably male birds on territory, chasing each other around the Scotch Pines interspersed among the succession plants and shrubs in the field's transition to second growth woodland. As the birds were so animated, only the brown auricular patches on the side of their heads were visible while the white median stripes on the crown were indistinct. However, Schaffner did hear the unmistakable three note 'buzz, buzz, buzz' songs of the male birds. On June 14th, he returned to the scene with Bruce Chilton and saw two Clay-colored Sparrows; he returned again on the 21st with Alan Smith at which time one singing male could be found. Schaffner is of the opinion that the circumstantial evidence for breeding activity at this location seems beyond question. Clay-colored Sparrows were also seen in Allegany County in June. On June 14th, Elizabeth Brooks was engaged in nest-finding activities in a mixed conifer Christmas Tree plantation on the Pingrey Road in the Town of Andover when she heard the distinct buzzy four or five note song of this species and located the male bird perched at the top of the tallest spruce tree in the area; she saw the bird again on the 21st. On June 26th, Brooks and Clarence Klingensmith were engaged in a breeding bird survey at the corner of Palmer's Road and the Karr Valley Road in the Town of West Almond when she heard the typical buzzy song again and located a male Clay-colored Sparrow perched atop a large hawthorne bush.

The field work on behalf of the N.Y. State Federation's Atlas of Breeding Birds continued to yield dividends in Allegany County for Elizabeth Brooks and her party on June 15th when she heard the distinctive song of an Orchard Oriole at the junction of Wolf Run and Lefever Roads in the Town of Clarksville. She located the singer, a male bird in first year plumage, perched in the crown of a large conifer by the road. One hour earlier, while similarly employed on the Heddon Hollow Road in the Town of Hinsdale in Cattaraugus County, Brooks and her party saw both adult male and female Orchard Orioles in a tree in a barnyard and observed the male bird carrying a fecal sac. On June 22nd, while engaged in Atlas field work on Sheer Road in the Town of Java in Wyoming County, Bob Andrie, Bill Vaughan and Jim Gregory observed an adult male Orchard Oriole in a grove of deciduous trees after locating the bird by hearing its song.

There were more reports of Red Crossbill sightings in June. On June 17th, Dave Dister observed an overflight of four Red Crossbills in a clearing in a spruce and pine plantation in the State Reforestation Area on the Eggleston Hill Road in the Town of North Harmony in Chautauqua County. He identified the birds by the "rollicking" flight pattern characteristic of crossbills and the sharp 'pip-pip-pip' call notes distinguishing the Red Crossbill from its congener, the White-winged Crossbill. Elizabeth Brooks recorded four Red Crossbills in three widely separated localities in Allegany County in June. On the 19th, she heard the flight call of one as it flew over a Scotch Pine plantation on the Lake Road in the Town of Alfred; on the 22nd, she saw two crossbills flying over a Norway Spruce plantation on the Vandermark Road in the Town of Ward and on the 25th, Brooks and Clarence Klingensmith heard the typical 'kip-kip-kip' call of a Red Crossbill flying over the Bill Morris Road in the Town of Almond.

Finally, on June 8th, a decision by Elizabeth Brooks to forsake a day of pleasure with a group of bird-watchers bound for Letchworth Park and to go instead to work on a State Federation Breeding Bird Atlas block in the Town of Allen in Allegany County proved to be a happy as well as a virtuous one. During a stop on the West Hill Road in that township, her attention was attracted to a flock of

approximately 25 finches apparently feeding on seedlings among the branches of a large deciduous tree. As she moved to within 30 yards of the tree, Brooks was able to identify the birds as Pine Siskins, both by visual identification and by hearing their "typical wheezy chattering" as they flew down the road to repeat their performance in another tree.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

JUNE NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f)- Indicates record from feeding station.

D.-crest. Cormorant	June	1	1 Rock Pt. P.P.	Hess
American Bittern	"	15	1 Tonawanda WMA	D'Anna, Potter
Northern Pintail	"	15	2 Tonawanda WMA	D'Anna, Potter
Gadwall	"	15	2 Tonawanda WMA	D'Anna, Potter
American Wigeon	"	24	7-9 Times Beach, Bfo	Andrle
		(4 adults, 3-5 young)		
Lesser Scaup	"	2,5	1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick, Adams
Common Merganser	"	2,3,8	10,11,2 Amity Lake	Pitzrick, Adams
Bald Eagle	"	13	1 Burgeson WS	Dister
		(immature bird)		
Northern Harrier	"	14,21	1-2 Alfred Twp.	Brooks
	"	22	1 Friendship Twp.	L+D Burton
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	15	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	15	1 Cuba	Brooks
Cooper's Hawk	"	8	1 Cherry Creek	Schaffner et al
Semipalm. Sandpiper	"	16L	4 Attica Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
Caspian Tern	"	28	2 Burgeson WS	Dister et al
Black Tern	"	12	2 Burgeson WS	Dister
N. Saw-whet Owl	"	1,7	2 Charlotte Twp.	Rew, Schaffner et al
Common Nighthawk	"	3	1 Oak Orchard WMA	A+C Mosche
	"	16	1 Buffalo	D'Anna, Potter
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	8	1 Ft. Gratiot	Schaffner
	"	11	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	30	1 Delaware Pk, Bfo.	Hess
Red Bellied Wdpkr.	"	8	1 Scio Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	11	1 Springville	O'Dell
Oliver-s. Flycatcher	"	2	1 Wilson Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	8L	1 Allegany S.P.	Dister et al

Volume 51, No. 7 "June Noteworthy Records" con't.

<u>Acadian Flycatcher</u>	"	7	5 Wheeler's Gulf	Schaffner, Mosher
		(Previously documented breeding area)		
	"	7	1-2 Fredonia Col. Camp.	Schaffner, Mosher
	"	8	2 Canadaway Cr. N S	Schaffner
	"	21	2 S. Valley Twp.	Schaffner et al
Cliff Swallow	"	7	1 Pomfret Twp.	Schaffner, Mosher
	"	11	1 Sheridan Twp.	Mosher, Benton
	"	15	2 Clarksville	Brooks
	"	21	35 Andover	Brooks
	"	21	1 Falconer	Schaffner et al
	"	22	4 Alma Twp.	Pitzrick
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-30	1-2 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	6	1 Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	1-30	1-10 Alfred Twp.	Brooks
	"	14	1 Pomfret Twp.	Schaffner, Mosher
	"	16	1 Orangeville Twp.	Schaffner, Brock
	"	25, 28	1, 1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Brown Creeper	"	1-30	1-5 Alfred Twp.	Brooks
	"	4-11	1 Zoar Valley	O'Dell
	"	21	1 S. Valley Twp.	Schaffner et al
Winter Wren	"	2	1 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	"	24	1 Villanova Twp.	Mosher
Marsh Wren	"	13	58 Tonawanda WMA	Hess
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	1-30	19 Allegany County	Brooks
		(territorial males)		
Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	"	10, 23	2, 1 Amity Twp. + Lake	Pitzrick
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-30	10 Alfred Twp.	Brooks
		(5 pairs)		
	"	1-30	2 Amity Twp.	L + D Burton
	"	6	1 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	"	8	1 Pomfret Twp.	Schaffner
	"	12	2 Holland	Becker
	"	21	1 Carroll Twp.	Schaffner et al
	"	23	2 Chestnut Rdg Pk	Becker
	"	30	50 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
		(25 pairs)		
Swainson's Thrush	"	5L	2 Buffalo	Hess
White-eyed Vireo	"	30	2 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Golden-w. Warbler	"	5, 19, 20	1, 1, 1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	22	1 Scio Twp.	Pitzrick
"Brewster's Warbler"	"	15	1 Tonawanda WMA	D'Anna, Potter
	"	20	1 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	"	23	1 Ivory	Dister
	"	29	1 Machias Twp.	Andrle et al
"Lawrence's Warbler"	"	14, 21	1 Poland Twp.	Mosher, Schaffner et al
Nashville Warbler	"	1-30	2-8 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	1-30	1-5 Alfred Twp.	Brooks
	"	14	1 Carroll Twp.	Mosher, Schaffner
	"	16	1 Orangeville Twp.	Schaffner, Brock
	"	24	1 Villanova Twp.	Mosher
Northern Parula	"	8	1 Allegany S.P.	Dister et al
Cape May Warbler	"	26	1 St. Catharines, Ont.	A. Smith
Bl.-thr. Blue Warbler	"	6	1 Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	1-30	34 Allegany Cnty.	Brooks
		(territorial males)		

Volume 51, No. 7 "June Noteworthy Records" Con't.

Yellow-r. Warbler	"	25,26	3,1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Prairie Warbler	"	1-30	1-8 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
		(Previously documented breeding area)		
	"	1-30	11 Allegany Cnty.	Brooks
		(territorial males)		
	"	6,28	2,3 Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	14,21	2 Carroll Twp.	Mosher, Schaffner et al
Cerulean Warbler	"	7	2-3 Wheeler's Gulf	Schaffner, Mosher
Bl.+ w. Warbler	"	1-30	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
<u>Prothonotary Warbler</u>	"	7	1 Fredonia Coll.	Camp Mosher, Schaffner
	"	15	1 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
N. Waterthrush	"	11	2 Springville	O'Dell
* <u>Kentucky Warbler</u>	"	19	1 Hinsdale Twp.	Andrle, Brock
	"	23	1 Ivory	Dister
	"	30	1 Ivory	Dister, Gardner
Yellow-br. Chat	"	1,4	2,2 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	2	1 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
<u>Clay-col. Sparrow</u>	"	7,14,21	4,2,1 Pomfret Twp.	Schaffner et al
	"	14,21	1 Andover Twp.	Brooks
	"	26	1 Allegany Cnty.	Brooks, Klingensmith
White-thr. Sparrow	"	4-30	5 Allegany Cnty.	Brooks
		(Territorial males)		
	"	16	1 Beaver Meadow WR	Rycroft
<u>Orchard Oriole</u>	"	15	1 Clarksville	Brooks et al
	"	15	2 Cattaraugus Co.	Brooks et al
	"	21	4 Cold Spring Twp.	Schaffner et al
		(2 adults, 2 fledglings)		
	"	22	1 Java Twp.	Andrle et al
Pine Siskin	"	8L	25 Allen Center	Brooks

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....250
 Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue..... 1
 Total for year.....251

ERRATUM

Prothonotary, vol..51:5
 page 68:

*Barn Swallow April 10F 1 Pinehurst Hess, Connaire
 should be deleted

VISIT TO KORTRIGHT WATERFOWL PARK

We had long heard of this sanctuary, dedicated to the author of "Ducks, Geese and Swans of North America", and so were pleased to visit it with eight friends on the BOS trip, Sunday, June 30th. The Park is 75 miles from the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge, three miles south of Guelph, Ontario on Hwy. 6.

The 116-acre park has a captive flock of 950 birds representing 90 species of waterfowl from all over the world. Some are in cages while many roam free. We shared the gravel path with two, old-world whooper swans and wished for our camera. Sunday morning is good for photography since the crowd is absent until afternoon. Weekdays bring busses of school children.

Many cages are not labeled but the attendant helped us identify fulvous duck, shelduck, and tufted duck. Four subspecies of Canada goose were on hand: giant, lesser, Aleutian and cackling. We could study at close range "Oak Orchard" rarities such as barnacle goose, white-fronted goose and dozens of nesting snow geese.

Kortright makes some of its income by breeding and selling waterfowl to private collectors, some of whom are careless about clipping a wing. The staff said that consequently, there are at least two nests of escaped whooper swans in that part of Ontario.

A visit in the Fall would allow one to see thousands of migrating waterfowl which congregate in the Park and adjoining sanctuary and river.

Kortright is operated on a limited budget by the non-profit Niska Wildlife Foundation so the place does not resemble a metropolitan zoo, but the birds are there to be seen and the staff is friendly and dedicated. A research centre there provides facilities for the study of waterfowl. Kortright is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day and the admission is \$2.00. To reach the park from the vicinity of Hamilton, proceed northerly on Hwy. 6. (This meets Hwy 401 and follows it west for a mile before again going northerly). From where Hwy. 6 leaves 401, go 5.5 miles and turn left onto Kortright Road. Continue on Kortright for 0.7 miles to the sanctuary entrance.

Trip leader, Bill Burch

FIELD TRIP TO TIFFT FARM NATURE PRESERVE, AUGUST 18th

Twelve birders met at the nature preserve's parking lot at 8 a.m. under sunny skies and a mild temperature. Just before starting out, a Caspian Tern provided an auspicious beginning for a lucky few.

The first stop of our walk overlooked Berm Pond and its adjacent mud flats. Dozens of Common Moorhens waddled about on the muck while Green-backed Herons waited patiently for a meal. An immature Black-crowned Night-Heron hid beneath the boardwalk on the other side of the pond while peeps, Lesser Yellowlegs, and Killdeer scurried about on the flats. A Belted Kingfisher posed atop a Tree Swallow box while we satiated ourselves with excellent looks at him and the other species. As we were walking down from our vantage point, the shorebirds suddenly took to the air. The reason was soon apparent when not one but two Cooper's Hawks flew out from the woods, veered in front of us and then flew off across the marsh.

We were still excited from seeing the hawks when we heard a Red-breasted Nuthatch. This sharp little bird, an early autumn migrant, cooperatively flew up for all to see. Not far away some more early migrants, a band of warblers, dashed quickly through the trees. Only one female (or immature) Redstart permitted positive identification.

Proceeding onto the marsh boardwalk we were startled by two Marsh Wrens only eight feet away. One responded to our spishing with a weak version of his "sewing-machine" song. Just off the boardwalk a Woodcock flushed and whistled off through the woods.

When we reached Lisa Pond on the north end of the preserve, we were greeted by a few more shorebirds. Then, from the observation blind, the hopes of many were realized when a Least Bittern was found at the edge of the pond. This beautiful heron posed spectacularly for the full time we stayed at the blind. When we were not watching the bittern, a statuesque Mute Swan allowed very close observation, while herons and ducks provided a nice diversity. Before leaving the pond, a Northern Mockingbird was briefly sighted, an uncommon bird at Tifft.

The rest of our walk produced very little but we all felt we had seen plenty already. We ended the trip as the temperature soared, feeling quite satisfied with our 53 species for the day.

Many thanks to Bill Bogacki whose knowledge of the preserve helped make this trip a success.

Willie D'Anna

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

October 23: Peeps and Small Sandpipers - Art Schaffner

November 13: Turkeys: Thanksgiving, Trivia, Truths and some of my Best Friends - David Cooper, M. D.

December 11: Christmas Party and

January 8: Joint meeting with Audubon - Dorothy Roeff - Birds of Sonibel

For further information, contact Barbara Walker, Program Committee Chairman, (649-1241, Hamburg, N.Y.).

FIELD TRIPS

October 20: Sunday. October Bird Count. Compiler: Barbara Walker (649-1242).

Volume 51, No. 7, "Field Trip Schedule" con't.

November 17: Sunday. Niagara River for special gulls and waterfowl. Joint trip with Genesee Ornithological Society and Burroughs - Audubon N. C. Meet at Old Fort Niagara at 9:30 a.m. Leaders: Dick Byron (892-9496) and Bob Spahn (1-671-5690). The meeting place is the parking lot immediately outside the old fort.

December 7: Saturday (not Sunday). Niagara River with Allegany County Bird Club. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Vermont and Busti or 9:15 on the Canadian Side at the first parking lot upstream from the Peace Bridge. Leader: _____.

December 22: Sunday. Christmas Count, centered on Grand Island.

Usually these trips take most of a day so a lunch should be brought.

For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690); Grand Island, N.Y.).

UPDATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Address Changes:

Mr. & Mrs. Ward M. Klepfer
18 Wayside Court
Snyder, New York 14226

Allen E. Valentine
17403 Oakington Court
Dallas, Texas 75252

Alan & Lois Kraft
2651 Youngstown-Wilson Road
Ransomville, New York 14131
Tel. 791-3929

Jeff Zehr
1750 College Avenue
Apt. A
Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481

Telephone Changes:

Douglas Happ - 833-1044

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, New York 14304.

Volume 51, No. 7

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Notify the Treasurer: William Townsend
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N. Tonawanda, NY
14120

BACK ISSUES:

Available from the Treasurer for \$.50
per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

\$10.00 per year, payable to the
treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Assistance in the production of this
issue of The Prothonotary was provided
by the following people:

Pat Cordaro (printing), Barbara Halvorsen
(typing)

Editorial Board: Wavel Barber, Marian
Dornhaffer, Bradley
Lown, Julia Wells.

EDITOR:

Charles Halvorsen
9 Yale Place
Buffalo, New York 14210

(716) 826-9247

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANI
LIBRARY

DEC 17 1985

HACA, N.Y.

VOLUME 51

AUGUST 1985

NUMBER 8

THE MONTH

July was a cloudy and warm month with an average temperature of 69.7° (F), one degree below average for the period. Although occasional light rain fell throughout the month, total precipitation measured only 1.81 inches, 1.15 inches below normal. A high temperature for the year of 91° (F) was recorded on July 25th; there were no major weather disturbances. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

As noted in the June issue of this newsletter, water levels on the north shore of Lake Erie are at an 18 year high this summer, inundating most of the nutrient-rich mud and sand flats at the shoreline and diverting most of the migrating shorebirds to more attractive feeding and resting sites. Thus it was that most of the reports received concerning the autumn passage of the shorebirds reflected observations in the Niagara Peninsula of Ontario at Smithville sewage lagoons in West Lincoln Township and at Glendale, a suburb of St. Catharines where the mudflats of the sewage lagoons at that location were crowded with southbound migrants most of the month. The Cannery Ponds at St David's, another favorite site, were less productive this July as they were not actively receiving effluence and dried up by month's end. The long migratory passage of southbound shorebirds through our study area began on June 30th with the sighting of five Lesser Yellowlegs, five Least Sandpipers and 125 Killdeer at Smithville. On July 4th at the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve in Buffalo, three Least Sandpipers and a Short-billed Dowitcher appeared in the marshes there. Although the large flocks of shorebirds at Smithville and Glendale provided excellent opportunities for the tyro to learn the field marks of the more common migrants, remarkably no verifiable records were received of the rarer species that delight the hearts of the listers. There was an unverified report of a Western Sandpiper and a Long-billed Dowitcher among the shorebirds at Smithville on July 25th.

Among other interesting birds seen this month were Great Egrets, which continue to be reported regularly from the wetlands of the Oak Orchard area in Genesee and Orleans counties. Don Endres saw a Great Egret at the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area on July 6th and 7th and four egrets at that location on the 28th. He also observed a Great Egret at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on the 7th. Least Bitterns, locally common but furtive summer residents in the cattail marshes of the region were much in evidence in July; Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter saw five during a field trip to the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve on the 13th. Single Least Bitterns were reported from the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge and Times Beach on the Buffalo Waterfront. Times Beach was also the scene of the sighting of five adult females and five broods of downy young American Wigeons by Bob Andrie on July 18th. An adult male Lesser Scaup, apparently a non-breeding wanderer, was seen at Times Beach throughout the month. On July 9th, the writer and his son observed an adult male Oldsquaw swimming in close proximity to the shoreline at Long Beach, Ontario. The bird, with its diagnostic long central tail feather, was still resplendent in its breeding plumage, the dark brown breast and neck contrasting with the black hooded head. On the same day, my son recovered the remains of what appeared to be a recently dead adult male White-winged Scoter a short distance further to the east at this shore.

On July 5th, a sub-adult Bald Eagle and an Osprey were seen along the feeder canal at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge; a second Osprey was seen at the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve on the 24th. Another sub-adult Bald Eagle was seen at the reservoir in the Town of Attica in Wyoming County on July 13th and on the 14th, an adult eagle was reported at Quaker Lake in Allegany State Park.

Records of Acadian Flycatchers as summer residents in Chautauqua County continue to be reported. On July 6th, Dave Dister observed a singing male Acadian Flycatcher perched on a bare tree limb in a heavily wooded area bordering a stream in the Chautauqua Gorge near Mayville, a favored habitat for this species in Western New York. The distinctive diagnostic 'peet-see-it' song was clearly heard. Dister also located two Winter Wrens in the gorge on that date. On July 9th, Terry Mosher heard this flycatcher's distinct 'pit-see' song in a wooded area adjacent to the Ball Road in the Town of Arkwright. On the 13th, he returned to the scene with Art Schaffner and Mike Turisk and they saw this bird singing from several different perches in trees bordering a small creek meandering through the woods there.

An unusual report received at the Buffalo Museum of Science during the month told of the presence of two Bay-breasted Warblers in breeding plumage seen at the Safari Campground north of Bemus Point in Chautauqua County on July 1st. It was a verbal communication and it remains unverified. On July 4th, an adult Prothonotary Warbler and two young birds of the year were seen on the Sour Springs Road in the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. On the 20th, two adults and one young fledged Prothonotary were seen at that location by Willie D'Anna and his party.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Ave., Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

JULY NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

D.-crest.Cormorant	July	28	4	Rock Pt. P.P.	D'Anna(BOS)
Least Bittern	"	5	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	12	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	Hess
	"	13	5	Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna,Potter
	"	18	1	Times Beach,Bflo	Andrie
Great Egret	"	6,7,28	1,1,4	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
	"	7	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
American Wigeon	"	18	35	Times Beach,Bflo	Andrie
		(5 females, 30 young)			
Oldsquaw	"	9	1	Long Beach,Ont.	Thills
Northern Harrier	"	2	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	"	6	2	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	6	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	"	23	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Cooper's Hawk	"	22,30	1,3	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Broad-w. Hawk	"	11	2	Alfred Twp.	Brooks
	"	12	2	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	12,23	1,1	Wales	O. Rosche
Greater Yellowlegs	"	9F	1	Goat Island	D'Anna,Potter
Lesser Yellowlegs	"	5F	2	Tonawanda WMA	D'Anna,Potter
Upland Sandpiper	"	8	2	Batavia	Endres
	"	16	4	Lyndonville	H+N. Krog
Semipalm. Sandpiper	"	20F	12	Tonawanda WMA	D'Anna et al
Least Sandpiper	"	13F	2	Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna,Potter
Pectoral Sandpiper	"	24F	2	Goat Island	D'Anna,Potter
*Stilt Sandpiper	"	24F	4	Goat Island	D'Anna,Potter
	"	28	20	Niagara Penin.,Ont.	D'Anna, (BOS).
Short-b. Dowitcher	"	12F	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	Hess
Bonaparte's Gull	:	28F	10	Niagara Penin.,Ont.	D'Anna (BOS)
Caspian Tern	"	22F	3	Times Beach,Bflo.	Andrie
Black Tern	"	1F	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Hess
	"	28	10	Fort Erie, Ont.	D'Anna,(BOS)
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	5,13	1,2	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	7,27	1,2	Iroquois NWR	Endres

Acadian Flycatcher	July	6	1 Mayville	Dister
"	"	9,13	1,1 Arkwright Twp.	Mosher et al
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-31	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	1	2 Alfred Twp.	Brooks
"	"	19	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	22,30	1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	24	1 Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
Winter Wren	"	1	1-2 Villanova Twp.	Mosher, Benton
"	"	6	2 Mayville	Dister
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	11	3 Alfred Twp.	Brooks
(Previously documented breeding area.)				
Eastern Bluebird	"	1	1 Villanova Twp.	Mosher, Benton
"	"	1-31	8 Alfred Twp.	Brooks
"	"	5	1 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	5	28 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	8,13	4-6 Arkwright Twp.	Mosher et al
White-eyed Vireo	"	11-20	1 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher, Sundells
Golden-w. Warbler	"	1,22	1,1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"Brewster's Warbler"	"	28	1 Hanover Twp.	Mosher
Nashville Warbler	"	1-15	2 Alfred Twp.	Brooks
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	1-15	1-15 Alfred Twp.	Brooks
"	"	9	4 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	24	1 Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
Prairie Warbler	"	1,2,10	3,3,1 Alfred Twp.	Brooks
(Previously documented breeding area.)				
"	"	9	1 Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
(Previously documented breeding area.)				
Prothonotary Warbler	"	20	3 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
Yellow-br. Chat	"	6	1 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	"	15	2 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	20	1 Steamburg	Hess
Clay-col. Sparrow	"	2,10	1,1 Alfred Twp.	Brooks
(Previously documented breeding area.)				
Vesper Sparrow	"	2	2 Alfred Twp.	Brooks
"	"	2	4 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	"	28	1 Wales	O. Rosche
White-thr. Sparrow	"	2,12	1,1 Alfred Twp.	Brooks
(Previously documented breeding area.)				

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....251
 Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue..... 1
 Total for year.....252

At the Buffalo Ornithological Society's annual meeting held on October 9, 1985, the following officers were duly elected for the ensuing year:

President - Robert Brock
 Vice President - David Cooper
 Secretary - Marian Dornhaffer

Treasurer - William Townsend
 Librarian & Records Custodian -
 Marie Wendling
 Statisticians - Robert Andrie
 Frances Rew

Named to the Council (with terms expiring in 1988) were:

Wayne Gall
Thomas Harper
Lincoln Nutting

1985 F & W Cooperative Breeding Bird Survey for Western New York

Since 1967 members and friends of B.O.S. have cooperated annually in this breeding bird survey. The details of procedure and route descriptions are presented in The Prothonotary Vol. 33 No. 10, pages 123-7 (1967) and Vol. 34 No. 10, page 112 (1968). Since 1980, the routes were limited to the eighteen in Western New York; the Ontario Route 001 (Dunville) has been taken over by Ontarians. This year seventeen of the eighteen routes were covered. The following listing shows the observers and assistants for each of the routes. We welcome Marian Dornhaffer and Barbara Walker as new cooperators and also the return of Gail Seamans.

Route#	Name	Observer	Assistant(s)
045	Phillip's Creek	Doris Burton	-----
046	Swain	Elizabeth W. Brooks	Clarence W. Klingensmith
052	Mt. Morris	Douglas Bassett	-----
053	Hamburg	William Bogacki	Esther Becker
054	West Seneca	Not Covered	
055	Gainesville	Mary Batcheller	-----
056	Cattaraugus	Marian Dornhaffer	Barbara Walker
057	East Java	David Junkin	Marty Junkin
058	Castile	Douglas Bassett	-----
059	Randolph	Timothy Baird	Stephen W. Eaton
060	Centerville	Wavel Barber	Maxine Barber
061	Sheridan	Frances M. Rew	Lois Buck
062	Cherry Hill	Robert A. Sundell	-----
063	Nashville	Robert M. Wagner	Edith N. Wagner
064	St. Johnsburg	Alice McKale	Jack & Margaret Wright
065	E. Youngstown	Harriette Klabunde	Walter Klabunde
066	Byron	David Keller	Gail Seamans
111	S. Vandalia	Regina Van Scoy	James Van Scoy

Table 1 shows the number of each species and the percentage of routes in which each species was recorded. A total of 120 species and 15,931 individuals were recorded. The number of species observed exceeds the previous high by four. By coincidence, the total new species recorded was also four, which brings the total recorded for 18 years to 160. The number of species per route varied from 43 to 73 with 58 as the median, while total individuals per route varied from 662 to 1473 with 922 as the median. The status of each species, compared with the previous seventeen years (which is noted after the name) is derived from the number recorded for the species for each of the 18 years of the survey, is as follows:

<u>Status</u>	<u>Rank in 18 yrs.</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Rank in 18 yrs.</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Rank in 18 yrs.</u>
H+(16)	1	M+(16)	5,6,7	L+(13)	15,16
H (11)	2	M (24)	8,9,10,11	L (8)	17
H-(20)	3,4	M-(9)	12,13,14	L-(1)	18

The number in parenthesis indicates the total in each category. No status is indicated for Alder and Willow Flycatchers as these species only existed for eleven years. Based on this period, a comparable status of H- for Alder and M for Willow Flycatcher, would be in order.

The four new species added this year were: Great Egret, seen on Route 063; Caspian Tern, seen on Route 066; Yellow-throated warbler, seen on Route 053; and Prairie Warbler, seen on Route 046. Also among the unusual recordings were: the Orchard Oriole, on Route 062 for the third time, and Red Crossbills recorded on Routes 046 and 063 for the second time in 18 years. Conversely, only five species among the missing which have a median of 1 or more for the past 17 years were: Wood Duck, for the 6th time; Ruffed Grouse, for the 9th time; Wild Turkey, for the 8th time; Barred Owl for the 5th time, and Black-throated Blue Warbler for the 9th time.

Walter Klabunde
4923 Creek Rd., Lewiston, N.Y. 14092

TABLE I

Summary 1985 F & W Breeding Bird Survey for Western New York

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% Rte.</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% Rte.</u>
Gr. Blue Heron H-	23	12	Common Snipe M-	1	6
Great Egret H+	1	6	Ring-b. Gull M+	75	18
Green Heron H	14	41	Caspian Tern H+	1	6
Canada Goose H-	2	6	Rock Dove H+	459	100
Mallard H	50	47	Mourning Dove H-	364	100
Blue-w. Teal M	1	6	Black-b. Cuckoo M-	9	47
Turkey Vulture H+	12	24	Yellow-b. Cuckoo M-	1	6
Northern Harrier H	4	12	Great Horned Owl H-	3	18
Sharp-sh. Hawk H-	1	6	Chimney Swift L+	30	53
Cooper's Hawk H-	1	6	Ruby-t. Hummingbird M	4	24
Red-should. Hawk L	2	6	Belted Kingfisher L	5	24
Broad-wing. Hawk H-	3	12	Red-h. Woodpecker L+	1	6
Red-tailed Hawk M	15	53	Red-b. Woodpecker M+	6	24
American Kestrel M	23	65	Yellow-b. Sapsucker H	9	12
Ring-neck. Pheasant L-	57	35	Downy Woodpecker M	24	59
Killdeer M+	179	100	Hairy Woodpecker M	2	12
Spotted Sandpiper L+	2	12	Common Flicker M-	40	100
Upland Sandpiper L+	2	12	Pileated Woodpecker M+	2	12

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% Rte.</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% Rte.</u>
E. Wood Pewee H-	57	76	Yellow-r. Warbler H-	2	12
Acadian Flycatcher H	1	6	Bl.-thr. Gr. Warbler M+	20	29
Alder Flycatcher	19	35	Blackburnian Warbler M	6	6
Willow Flycatcher	61	59	Yellow-thr. Warbler H+	1	6
Least Flycatcher H+	71	100	Prairie Warbler H+	1	6
Eastern Phoebe M	45	76	Bl. & w. Warbler H-	2	6
Gr. Crest. Flycatcher H-	38	82	American Redstart H-	30	41
Eastern Kingbird M+	76	94	Ovenbird H+	53	65
Horned Lark L+	23	24	Nor. Waterthrush H-	1	6
Purple Martin M	31	24	La. Waterthrush H+	2	6
Tree Swallow H	58	65	Mourning Warbler H-	13	47
Nor. Rough-w. Swallow M-	6	12	Common Yellowthroat H+	266	100
Bank Swallow M	67	29	Hooded Warbler H-	6	29
Cliff Swallow M	8	24	Canada Warbler L	2	6
Barn Swallow M	443	100	Yellow-breasted Chat H	1	6
Blue Jay H-	147	100	Scarlet Tanager M	29	76
American Crow H-	760	100	Northern Cardinal H	131	94
Black-c. Chickadee M+	92	100	Rose-br. Grosbeak M	46	82
Tufted Titmouse H+	3	12	Indigo Bunting M+	139	94
Red-br. Nuthatch H+	5	6	Rufous-s. Towhee L	43	41
White-br. Nuthatch H+	20	59	Chipping Sparrow M+	334	100
Brown Creeper M-	1	6	Field Sparrow L+	117	94
House Wren M-	144	100	Vesper Sparrow M	25	47
Golden-cr. Kinglet M	2	6	Savannah Sparrow L+	327	100
Eastern Bluebird H-	12	35	Grasshopper Sparrow L+	3	6
Veery H-	52	71	Henslow's Sparrow L+	1	6
Hermit Thrush M+	4	12	Song Sparrow L+	822	100
Wood Thrush M	146	100	Swamp Sparrow L+	10	41
American Robin M+	1544	100	Wh.-thr. Sparrow M	1	6
Gray Catbird H-	198	100	Dark-eyed Junco H+	33	41
Brown Thrasher L	13	35	Bobolink M	357	100
Cedar Waxwing M+	128	82	Red-w. Blackbird L	1802	100
European Starling M-	1779	100	E. Meadowlark L	198	100
Solitary Vireo H+	5	12	Common Grackle M	1352	100
Yellow-th. Vireo M	1	6	Brown-h. Cowbird L+	117	100
Warbling Vireo H+	65	71	Orchard Oriole H	1	6
Red-eyed Vireo L+	120	100	Northern Oriole L	75	100
Blue-w. Warbler M+	12	24	Purple Finch M+	18	59
Nashville Warbler M	1	6	House Finch H	66	71
Yellow Warbler M+	305	100	Red Crossbill H	4	12
Chestnut-s. Warbler M	23	53	American Goldfinch M+	475	100
Magnolia Warbler H	14	24	House Sparrow M-	967	100

REPORT OF OCTOBER 1985 BIRD COUNT

Date: October 20, 1985

Compiler: B. Walker

Weather: October 20 was a chilly, breezy (15 mph) overcast day. Temperature ranged from 40° in the A. M. to 60° by noon.

Compilation: Following is a list of species recorded on the count and the number of each. Underlined names indicate that acceptable written verifications were received. Species reported in three or fewer sections are marked with the B. O. S. section in parentheses. *** (See end of Bird count, following record lows.)

Loons - Ducks

Common Loon - 23	Northern Shoveler - 11
Pied-billed Grebe - 123	Gadwall - 40
Horned Grebe - 12	American Wigeon - 282
Red-necked Grebe - 9	Canvasback - 320
Double-crested Cormorant - 36	Redhead - 98
Great Blue Heron - 98	Ring-necked Duck - 23
Green-backed Heron - 1 (2)	Greater Scaup - 2,910F
Black-crown Night Heron - 9	Lesser Scaup - 6,292
Tundra Swan - 13F	Oldsquaw - 4F
Canada Goose - 4,821	Black Scoter - 3F (11)
Wood Duck - 151	Surf Scoter - 16F
Green-winged Teal - 88	White-winged Scoter - 59
American Black Duck - 235	Common Goldeneye - 17F
Mallard - 2,046	Bufflehead - 33F
Northern Pintail - 94	Hooded Merganser - 57
Blue-winged Teal - 28	Common Merganser - 26
Ruddy Duck - 32	Red-breasted Merganser - 48

Vultures - Cranes

Turkey Vulture - 41	Red-tailed Hawk - 321
Osprey - 6	Rough-legged Hawk - 5F
Bald Eagle - 3 (23)(24)	American Kestrel - 145
Northern Harrier - 48	Ring-necked Pheasant - 35
Sharp-shinned Hawk - 36	Ruffed Grouse - 58
Cooper's Hawk - 10	Wild Turkey - 138
Northern Goshawk - 1 (8)	American Coot - 423
Red-shouldered Hawk - 8	

Shore Birds

Black-bellied Plover - 2 (5)(6)	Ruddy Turnstone - 3 (6)
Lesser Golden Plover - 3 (10)	Sanderling - 141
Killdeer - 650	Pectoral Sandpiper - 43
Greater Yellowlegs - 57	Dunlin - 266
Lesser Yellowlegs - 36	Common Snipe - 20
Spotted Sandpiper - 1L (28)	American Woodcock - 12

Gulls - Flycatchers

Bonaparte's Gull - 1,140	Long-eared Owl - 1 (21)
Ring-billed Gull - 12,501	Belted Kingfisher - 48
Herring Gull - 6,248	Red-headed Woodpecker - 2 (6)
Great Black-backed Gull - 225	Red-bellied Woodpecker - 22
Common Tern - 10	Yel.-bellied Sapsucker - 2 (28)
Rock Dove - 3,254	Downy Woodpecker - 250
Mourning Dove - 1,258	Hairy Woodpecker - 69
Eastern Screech Owl - 4	Northern Flicker - 87
Great Horned Owl - 19	Pileated Woodpecker - 18
Barred Owl - 1 (15)	Eastern Phoebe - 3 (4)(20)(27)

Larks - Thrushes

Horned Lark (<u>E.a.praticola</u>) - 79	Winter Wren - 7
Tree Swallow - 512L	Golden-cr. Kinglet - 318
No. Rough-wing. Swallow - 1 (2)	Ruby-cr. Kinglet - 103
Blue Jay - 1,337	Eastern Bluebird - 131
American Crow - 3,522	Hermit Thrush - 5
Bl.-capped Chickadee - 1,598	Wood Thrush - 3 (2)(14)(20)
Tufted Titmouse - 30	American Robin - 6,264
Red-br. Nuthatch - 50	Gray Catbird - 4
White-br. Nuthatch - 299	Northern Mockingbird - 26
Brown Creeper - 45	Brown Thrasher - 5

Waxwings - Warblers

Water Pipit - 669	Magnolia Warbler - 1L (4)
Cedar Waxwing - 1,995	Yellow-rumped Warbler - 501
Northern Shrike - 1F (20)	American Redstart - 1L (19)
European Starling - 41,460	Common Yellowthroat - L4
Solitary Vireo - 2 (6)(23)	

Tanagers - Orioles

Northern Cardinal - 354	Lincoln's Sparrow - 1 (2)
Rose-br. Grosbeak - 1 (2)	Swamp Sparrow - 32
Rufous-sided Towhee - 10	Wh.-throated Sparrow - 511
American Tree Sparrow - 39F	Wh.-crowned Sparrow - 79
Chipping Sparrow - 83	Dark-eyed Junco - 1,840
Field Sparrow - 34	Red-winged Blackbird - 26,804
Vesper Sparrow - 17	Eastern Meadowlark - 75
Savannah Sparrow - 11L	Rusty Blackbird - 362
Fox Sparrow - 12	Common Grackle - 12,157
Song Sparrow - 368	Brown-headed Cowbird - 3,718

Pine Grosbeaks - House Sparrows

**Pine Grosbeak - 1 (14)	American Goldfinch - 1,239
Purple Finch - 199	Evening Grosbeak - 900
House Finch - 1,592	House Sparrow - 3,740
Pine Siskin - 96	

137 Species
158,783 Individuals

Sections and Observers: My thanks to Section Compilers and their observers who continue to be supportive in our efforts to compile these records. It is their enthusiasm that makes these counts a success. In the list that follows, Compilers' names are underlined:

1. Font Hill, Ont.: Gary Novosel
2. Thorold, Ont.: Drew Campbell, Brad Clements; Peninsula Field Naturalists, St. Catharines: Frank & Audrey Barnsley, Gordon Bellerby, Charles Chetty, Nel Dekker, Mary Ellen Foley, Bryan & Bonnie Joule, Richard Knaption, Bob & Marge Millman, Frank & Norma Mueller, Cindy Smith, Bob Sommerville
3. Wilson: Harriette & Walter Klabunde, Charles Dishaw, Dorothy & Jim Moreland, Tim O'Day
4. Middleport: Bob Brock, Alan Kraft
5. Oak Orchard: Dick Christensen, Bill Burch, Bill Townsend, Charlotte Pratt, Marian Smith
6. Port Maitland: Daniel Cooper, Dick Collins, Paul Kelly, Jerry Chappelle
7. Lowbank, Ont.: David & Debbie Suggs
8. Fort Erie, Ont.: Mike Zebehazy
9. Grand Island: Karen Renning, Roberta McDonald, William Vaughan, Ed Crohn, Mary Ann Stegmeier, Jack & Marge Wright
10. Akron: Willie D'Anna, Betsy Potter
11. Buffalo: Art Shaffner, Charles Halvorsen
12. Lancaster: Marie Wendling, Anna Bauer, Dorothy & Fred Danner, Roy Franz, Tom Harper, Cy Wolfling
13. Batavia: Jane & Max Mason, David Keller, Don Thurau, Eileen & Bob Hull, Barbara Dodge, Marge Pixley
14. Hamburg: Barbara Walker, Erma Kern, Ken Brandes, Lucille & Bob Leonard, Mae Ruhl, Thelma Pikett, Barbara Howard, Jane Wilson Pam McHeil, Marian Dornhaffer
15. Java: Bill Bogacki, Esther Becker, Art Rosche, Olga Rosche
16. Angola: Fran Rew, Lois Buck
17. Cattaraugus: Wavel & Maxine Barber, David & Janice Bigelow
18. Delevan: Jane & Don Clark, Bruce Chilton, Ellen Schopp, Dale Hallock
19. Fillmore: Katherine Palmer (Allegany County Bird Club), Donald Goodsell, Mr. & Mrs. Howard Lang, Faye Clancy, Lois Harvey, Lois & Lloyd Higby, Josephine Main, Mr. & Mrs. Roger Nicholson, Judy O'Banks, Vesta Rice, Emmette Smith, Victor Carpenter, Alice Evans, Larry Wilson, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Wilson, Mr. & Mrs. Marion Spencer
20. Dunkirk: Terry Mosher (Lake Erie Bird Club), Nancy Bowser, C. Burkhardt, Sylvia Clarke, Joyce Cullen, Jeanine Flory, Joanne Goetz, Joe Gula, Joe Gula, Jr., Greg Harper, Phil Kumler, Peg Langer, Terry Mahoney, Judy Mosher, Lucille Neveu, Bob Peterson, Bob Rand, Aristine Richardson, Marty Sanden, Paul Steese, Ruth Steese, Tom Welch, Donna Wilson
21. Cherry Creek: Robert Sundell, (Jamestown Audubon Society), David Gagne, Julia Heilman, Martha Hendrickson, Dorothy Pihlblad, Carol Roby
22. Sherman: Robert Sundell, (Jamestown Audubon Society), David Gagne

23. Frewsburg: Robert Sundell, (Jamestown Audubon Society), Daniel Cordosi, David Gagne, Joanne Nelson, William Newark, William & Linda O'Brien, Jean Pigman, Katherine Ponton, James Roman, Thomas Simmons
24. Allegany State Park: Tim Baird
25. Allegany, N. Y.: Tim Baird, Lucille Bordonaro, Alene Johnson Church, Steve & Betty Eaton, Margaret & Charles Green, Fred Meyers, James & Regina Van Scoy
26. Cuba: Doris Burton, Doris & Lou Burton, Betty & John Compton (Allegany County Bird Club)
27. Bolivar: Doris Burton (Allegany County Bird Club), Helen K. Apsey, Helen Link, Frances DeGroff, Doris Hurlburt, Emma Lou King, Lillian & Stella Simons
28. Alfred: (Allegany County Bird Club) Carla Coch, Jim Copenheaver, Lavinia Creighton, Ann & Robert Eisenhardt, Eva Ford, Kathy MacDonald, Ruth Paige, Ann & Robert Pipal, Daniel Rose, Suzanne Wood, Paul & Cynthia Culley, Lorri Chapman, Ellen Lamb. Clarence Klingensmith, Margaret Klingensmith, Russell Allen, Dorothy Bayless, Fred Bayless, Esther Biehl, Donald & Lorna Brink, Vivian & Wayne Brownell, Martha DeLaVergne, Jay & Louise Gibson, Nathan & Ellen Hardy, Mildred Hayes, Benson & Fay Heller, Viola Ide, Ed & Marjorie Mason, Robert & Marjorie Mason, Linn Phelan, Violet Sharrett, Lauren & Maureen Soule, Allen & Gladys Witter, Mallery & Mary Adams, Doris & Lou Burton, Clifford Button, Lloyd, Sandra & Kevin Hotchkiss, Raymond Pitzrick, Vivian Pitzrick, James Valente, Vera Brown, Dale & Evelyn Coats, Paul & Mary Alice Fuller, Robert and Claribel James, Ernest & Lynn Rositzke, Theodore, Lorena & Roger Vossler, Myrt Brown, Helen Graves, Erma Larson, Ona & David Reynolds, Helen (Norbert) Shear, Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Spencer, Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Taggart, Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Taggart, Mrs. Wm. Thompson
Andover: Susan Beckhorn, Wisner Cook, Kenneth McClure, Bea Thompson, Harold R. Ward

Record Highs for this Count

Loon - 23; Red-necked Grebe - 12; Lesser Scaup - 6,292; Hooded Merganser - 57; Sharp-shinned Hawk - 36; Red-tailed Hawk - 321; Kestrel - 145; Great Black-backed Gull - 225; Great Horned Owl - 19; Pileated Woodpecker - 18; Red bellied Woodpecker - 22; Tufted Titmouse - 30; Nor. Mockingbird - 26; Water Pipit - 669; Cedar Waxwing - 1,995; Evening Grosbeak - 900; House Finch - 1,592.

Record Lows:

Common Tern - 10; White-crowned Sparrow - 79; White-throated Sparrow - 511; Swamp Sparrow - 32; Song Sparrow - 368

*** Compilation: * - Indicates first record for the year
F - Indicates first record for the migration
L - Indicates last record for the migration

SPECIAL EVENTS

The 38th Annual Meeting of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, hosted by the Buffalo Ornithological Society, was by all accounts a great success. A total of 137 individuals registered for the meeting with 90 of them from out of town. Congratulations to General Committee Chairpersons Walter & Harriette Klabunde, the various committee chairpersons and all those who assisted. Their hard work made the weekend enjoyable and informative for all.

NOTES

The field work for the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas has been completed. The Western New York area birders did an excellent job. All of the 635 blocks in our area were covered. Of those, only about 12 reported fewer than 25 species. Many of those blocks represent areas with limited bird populations such as urban centers and small land areas. The birders who gave their time and energy can take pride in their contributions to this important project.

ed.

UPDATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Address changes:

David B. Freeland
62 Wetmore Avenue
Morristown, N. J. 07960

William Meyer
39 Northwood Avenue
West Seneca, N.Y. 14224

Paul F. Hess
338 Cleveland Drive
Kenmore, N.Y. 14223

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

December 11: Christmas Party and

January 8: Joint meeting with Audubon - Dorothy Rolff - "Birds of Sanibel"

For further information, contact Barbara Walker, Program Committee Chairman, (649 - 1242, Hamburg, N.Y.)

FIELD TRIPS

- December 7: Saturday (not Sunday). Niagara River with Allegany County Bird Club. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Vermont and Busti or 9:15 on the Canadian Side at the first parking lot upstream from the Peace Bridge. Leaders: Bob Andrie (896-5200) and Elizabeth Brooks (1-461-2399 Rochester).
- December 22: Sunday. B.O.S. Christmas Count, centered on Grand Island. Compiler: Bill Bogacki (674-5781). Call the compiler for assignment of the 16 territories or to help in one. Post-census dinner and report meeting will be held at the Grand Island Holiday Inn, East River Road at Whitehaven at about 6:00 p.m. Birding attire is welcome.
- December 21: Saturday. Beaver Meadow Christmas Count.
- December 28: Saturday. Audubon Christmas Count, centered on Chestnut Ridge Park. Compiler: Bill Burch (773-3690).
- January 5, 1986: Sunday. Niagara River for Gulls and Ducks. Leader: Ed Crohn (839-2259) Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Vermont & Busti entrance to the Peace Bridge or at 9:15 at the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge on the Canadian side of the river.
- January 12, 1986: Sunday. Waterfowl Count for the Federation of NYS Bird Clubs. The target date is Jan. 12 but any date between Jan. 11 and Jan. 19 is acceptable. For assignment of territory, call the coordinator, Marie Wendling (632-6625).

Usually these trips take most of a day so a lunch should be brought.

For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690); Grand Island, N.Y.

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial - A - Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, New York 14304.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Notify the Treasurer: William Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY
14120

BACK ISSUES:

Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

\$10.00 per year, payable to the treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Pat Cordaro (printing), Barbara Halvorsen (typing)

Editorial Board: Wavel Barber, Marian Dornhaffer, Bradley Lown, Julia Wells

EDITOR:

Charles Halvorsen
9 Yale Place
Buffalo, New York 14210
(716) 826-9247

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY

VOLUME 51

SEPTEMBER 1985

JAN - 2 1986

NUMBER 9

ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

THE MONTH

August was a warm and wet month with rainfall measuring 4.63 inches, .47 inches above the norm. The average temperature for the period was 69.2° (F), .3° above the mean. The month began with a succession of warm and sunny days with the high temperature for the period, 87° (F) recorded on August 5th and equalled on the 10th, 13th and 18th. Most of the rainfall occurred in the last ten days with 1.10 inches measured in intermittent downpours in the Buffalo area on August 28th and the weather continuing wet and cool to the end of the period. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

In spite of the rather flat weather pattern with no significant cold fronts in August, there were good migratory flights of small passerines throughout the month with the first significant observations on the north shore of Lake Erie on the 12th when many migrating Yellow and Black-and-white Warblers were seen at Morgan's Point, Ontario; a Pine Warbler was also seen at Rock Point Provincial Park on that date. The calls of many migrating passerines were heard in the night sky over Buffalo on August 20th and 21st.

Post breeding wanderers as well as migrants were very much in evidence. In addition to the observations of Great Egrets summering at the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area and the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, Bob Andrie reported one egret at Times Beach in Buffalo on August 24th and two at that location on the 28th. On August 31st, Andrie and Jim Gregory saw two Great Egrets at the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve. Earlier in the month, Andrie saw an adult Yellow-crowned Night Heron at South Park Lake in the Cazenovia Park section of South Buffalo where he watched it, both feeding in the shallows at the shoreline and perched on the dead limb of a tree, at

close range. The heron's white crown, white cheek patch and gray belly contrasting with the striped black and gray pattern of the back were clearly seen. Later in the month, an adult Yellow-crowned Night Heron, presumed by some observers to be the same bird reported at Cazenovia Park earlier, appeared at Mirror Lake and nearby Scajaquada Creek in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Buffalo where it remained for several days.

A very early Ring-necked Duck, possibly a wandering immature male or an adult male bird in eclipse plumage was seen by Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter in a small pond in the Joseph Davis State Park in the Town of Lewiston in Niagara County on August 15th. An adult male Lesser Scaup was seen by Andrie and Gregory at Mirror Lake in Forest Lawn Cemetery on the 31st.

There were several records of ospreys in our study area in August. Harold Axtell saw an osprey in the Town of Fort Erie on August 18th and again on the 19th. On the unseasonably cool morning of August 31st which induced a general movement of migrants, Bob Andrie and Jim Gregory observed an osprey flying over the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve while Willie D'Anna and his party saw a second one at Morgan's Point, Ontario on that date. Morgan's Point was also the scene of a very unusual sight, five migrating Broad-winged Hawks observed by Harold Axtell on the same date.

Although the Merion Sod Farm north of Lowbanks, Ontario was reduced to a fraction of the acreage under cultivation a few years ago, flocks of Black-bellied Plover were still to be found there during the month and on August 31st, Willie D'Anna and his party counted 60 Lesser Golden Plovers at this location. Terry Mosher saw a Willet in Dunkirk Harbor on August 7th. The first formal records of Baird's Sandpipers for the season were not reported until the 17th when two birds, one at the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve seen by Paul Hess and one at the sewage lagoons at Smithville, Ontario observed by Harold Axtell made their appearance. Axtell also reported the season's first Wilson's Phalarope at Smithville on that date.

By mid-August, the post-breeding flocks of migrant gulls were much in evidence on the lower Great Lakes. On August 15th, 135 Little Gulls were counted among a concentration of 10,000 Bonaparte's Gulls and 40,000 Ring-billed Gulls at Long Point, Ontario on Lake Erie. In our region, migrating Bonaparte's Gulls were seen in good numbers along the north shore of Lake Erie and the upper Niagara River by the 21st. On that date, Bob Andrie found a Franklin's Gull among several hundred 'Bonies' at LaSalle Park in Buffalo. During a joint B.O.S.-Genesee Ornithological Society Field Trip on August 25th, an adult Little Gull was seen at Rock Point Provincial Park. Terry Mosher observed an immature Laughing Gull in Dunkirk Harbor on August 7th and 8th; a second Laughing Gull, believed to be a different individual because of a lighter mantle, was seen at Barcelona Harbor, 20 miles west of Dunkirk on the Lake Erie shore in the Town of Westfield on August 11th.

Although the Common Nighthawk has virtually disappeared as a breeding summer resident in the vicinity of Buffalo, it still can be seen in large numbers in late August and early September when twilight skies are filled with migrating birds of this species. Paul Hess counted 102 nighthawks over the Town of Tonawanda on August 24th. Also on the 24th, Dave Freeland saw a large flycatcher "feeding actively" from its perch on a dead limb in the crown of a 20 foot tree on the edge of a field on Tufford Road in the Village of Beamsville in Lincoln Township, Ontario. Freeland stopped to scrutinize this bird with his binoculars when he noticed its lemon yellow underparts, easily observed during its periodic flights from its perch hawking after insects in a habitat most untypical for a Great Crested Flycatcher. He had the opportunity to examine the bird at leisure for several minutes and identified it as a Western Kingbird, a species he had seen on many occasions in Massachusetts and in western North America. The bird's very yellow belly and abdomen, rather long black tail and dull gray head, mantle and wings were clearly seen.

On August 3rd, Terry Mosher discovered yet another presumptive breeding location for the Golden-crowned Kinglet in Chautauqua County. On that date, he saw a flock of "five or six" Golden-crowned Kinglets moving rapidly through the branches of the trees in a Red Pine Plantation on Meadows Road in the Town of Arkwright; he had good views of an adult and a juvenile bird. Mosher's attention was attracted to this woodlot when he heard the thin, rapid 'see-see-see' call of a kinglet from within. Richard Collins saw a very early migrant Ruby-crowned Kinglet on August 24th while walking through a grove of deciduous trees on the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve on that date. Bob Andrie saw a very early Swainson's Thrush at Evangola State Park in the Town of Evans on August 4th, possibly a post-breeding wanderer from a population in the Allegany Uplands of southwestern New York or Pennsylvania. August was also remarkable for reports of two Loggerhead Shrikes in our study area, a species believed to be extirpated as a breeding summer resident on the Niagara Frontier. Willie D'Anna saw a Loggerhead Shrike at Beamsville, Ontario on August 31st and earlier in the month there was an unverified report of a sighting of this shrike in the Town of Westfield in Chautauqua County.

Finally, also on August 3rd, Terry Mosher and Mike Trudnowski saw an adult male Bay-breasted Warbler, still in breeding plumage, in the company of a flock of chickadees in a Red Pine Plantation on Prospect Road in the Town of Hanover in Chautauqua County.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Ave., Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

AUGUST NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
 F - Indicates first record for the migration
 L - Indicates last record for the migration.
 (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

D.-crest.Cormorant	August	25	1	Rock Point P.P.	Becker (BOS-GOS)
Least Bittern	"	8	1	Iroquois NWR	Hess
	"	8	2	Alabama Twp.	Endres
	"	9	3	Oak Orchard WMA	O'Dell
		(2 adults, 1 young)			
	"	11	1	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
	"	18	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna (BOS)
Great Egret	"	4, 18	1, 3	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
	"	24	1	Times Beach, Bflo.	Andrle
	"	28	2	Times Beach, Bflo.	Andrle, Rew
	"	31	2	Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle, Gregory
<u>Y.-cr. Night-Heron</u>	"	4	1	South Park, Bflo.	Andrle
<u>Mute Swan</u>	"	1-31	1	Times Beach, Bflo.	Andrle et al
	"	18	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna (BOS)
Green-w. Teal	"	17F	2	Rock Point P.P.	Axtell
	"	20	1	Erie Beach, Ont.	Axtell
No. Shoveler	"	25F	1	Glendale, Ont.	Becker (BOS-GOS)
American Wigeon	"	31	22	Times Beach, Bflo	Andrle, Gregory
	"	31F	15	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Ring-necked Duck	"	15	1	Joseph Davis S.P.	D'Anna, Potter
Lesser Scaup	"	31F	1	Forest Lawn, Bflo.	Andrle, Gregory
Hooded Merganser	"	19F	1	Forest Lawn, "	O'Dell
	"	31	1	Forest Lawn, "	Andrle, Gregory
Common Merganser	"	22F	2	Morgan's Pt., Ont.	Axtell
Red-br. Merganser	"	26F	1	Morgan's Pt., "	Axtell
Osprey	"	16F	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	18, 19	1, 1	Thunder Bay, Ont.	Axtell
	"	31	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle, Gregory
	"	31	1	Morgan's Pt., Ont.	D'Anna et al
Bald Eagle	"	4F	2	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Northern Harrier	"	3, 11	4, 2	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
	"	17	1	Tifft Farm N. P.	Hess
	"	18	1	Pomfret Twp.	Moshers
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	17, 19	1, 1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	31F	2	Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle, Gregory
Cooper's Hawk	"	16	2	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
	"	18	2	Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna (BOS)
	"	2-23	1-2	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	31	2	Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle, Gregory

Vol. 51 No. 9 "Noteworthy Records cont.

Broad-w. Hawk	August 1-28	1-2 Amity Twp.	V + M Pitzrick
"	" 7	1 Wales(f)	O. Rosche
"	" 31F	5 Morgan's Pt., Ont.	Axtell
Black-bell. Plover	" 18F, 19	2, 3 Niagara Falls	Cooper
"	" 23	7 Dunnville twp, ont.	Axtell
"	" 25	30 Dunnville Twp, Ont.	Becker (BOS-GOS)
*L. Golden Plover	" 31F	60 Dunnville Twp, Ont.	D'Anna et al
Semipalm. Plover	" 1F	1 Goat Island	D'Anna
"	" 18	2 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna (BOS)
Solitary Sandpiper	" 6F	1 Yates Twp.	Cooper
"	" 8	1 Iroquois NWR	Hess
"	" 9	6 Iroquois NWR	O'Dell
"	" 25	2 Smithville, Ont.	Becker (BOS-GOS)
*Willet	" 7	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
Upland Sandpiper	" 10	11 Shelby Twp.	Endres
"	" 30	1 Sheldon	O. Rosche
Ruddy Turnstone	" 4F	1 Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
"	" 20	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
*Red Knot	" 9F	1 Iroquois NWR	O'Dell
"	" 25	1 Rock Point P.P.	Becker (BOS-GOS)
*Sanderling	" 18F	1 Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
"	" 20	10 Canadaway Creek	NS Mosher
"	" 20	6 Rose Hill, Ont.	Axtell
W.-rump. Sandpiper	" 11F-18	1 Rock Point P.P.	Axtell
*Baird's Sandpiper	" 17F	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	Hess
"	" 17F	1 Smithville, Ont.	Axtell
"	" 31	1 Smithville, Ont.	D'Anna et al
Stilt Sandpiper	" 17	5 Smithville, Ont.	Axtell
Wilson's Phalarope	" 17	1 Smithville, Ont.	Axtell
*Franklin's Gull	" 21F	1 LaSalle Pk., Bflo.	Andrle, Foster
"	" 31	1 Buffalo	Andrle, Gregory
Little Gull	" 25F	1 Rock Point P.P.	Becker (BOS-GOS)
Caspian Tern	" 3	2 Times Beach, Bflo.	Andrle
"	" 18	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna (BOS)
Common Nighthawk	" 8F, 30	17, 30 Buffalo	Hess
"	" 21, 24	12, 102 Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
Red-headed Wdpkr.	" 26	4 Burgeson W.S.	Dister
Olive-s. Flycatcher	" 19F	1 Thunder Bay, Ont.	Axtell
"	" 27	1 Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
"	" 31	1 Smithville, Ont.	D'Anna, Turisk
Yellow-b. Flycatcher	" 12F	2 Port Colborne, Ont.	Axtell
"	" 22	2 Morgan's Pt., Ont.	Axtell
"	" 23	1 Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
"	" 31	1 Morgan's Pt., Ont.	D'Anna et al
*Western Kingbird	" 24	1 Beamsville, Ont.	Freeland
Tufted Titmouse	" 2, 4, 9, 10	1, 1, 1, 10 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	" 20-31	1-3 Fort Niagara S.P.	D'Anna, Potter
Red-br. Nuthatch	" 12	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	" 17F	2 Tifft Farm N.P.	D'Anna, Potter
"	" 21-25	1 Eggertsville	McKale
"	" 25	6 Rock Pt. P.P.	Becker (BOS-GOS)
"	" 27	1 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	" 31	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle, Gregory

Vol. 51, No. 9 "Noteworthy Records" con't.

Brown Creeper	August	14	1	Chestnut Rdg. Pk. O'Dell
Carolina Wren	"	24,28,31	1	Times Beach, Bflo. Andrie et al
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	3	5-6	Arkwright Twp. Mosher
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	"	24F	1	Tifft Farm N.P. Collins
Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	"	18F	1	Thunder Bay, Ont. Axtell
	"	22,26	4,3	Morgan's Pt., Ont. Axtell
	"	31	1	Forest Lawn, Bflo. Andrie, Gregory
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-31	2-12	Amity Lake & Twp. Pitzrick
Swainson's Thrush	"	4F	1	Evangola S.P. Andrie
	"	31	1	Buffalo Hess
*Loggerhead Shrike	"	31	1	Beamsville, Ont. D'Anna et al
Blue-w. Warbler	"	31F	1	Tifft Farm N.P. Andrie, Gregory
Golden-w. Warbler	"	2	1	Amity Twp. Pitzrick
Tennessee Warbler	"	18F	1	Thunder Bay, Ont. Axtell
	"	31	2	Morgan's Pt., Ont. D'Anna et al
Nashville Warbler	"	21F	1	Fort Niagara S.P. D'Anna, Potter
Chestnut-s. Warbler	"	21F	1	Wheatfield Twp. Potter
Magnolia Warbler	"	21F	1	Fort Niagara S.P. D'Anna, Potter
Cape May Warbler	"	31F	2	Tifft Farm N.P. Andrie, Gregory
	"	31F	12	Niagara Penin., Ont. D'Anna et al
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	10-31	1-12	Amity Lake Pitzrick
	"	18F	1	Thunder Bay, Ont. Axtell
	"	22,26	1,1	Morgan's Pt., Ont. Axtell
Bl.-thr. Green Warb.	"	22F	1	Tifft Farm N.P. D'Anna, Potter
Blackburnian Warbler	"	21F	1	Ft. Niagara S.P. D'Anna, Potter
	"	31	2	Tifft Farm N.P. Andrie, Gregory
Bay-br. Warbler	"	3F	1	Hanover Twp. Mosher, Trudnowski
	"	20	1	Ft. Erie, Ont. O'Dell
Bl.-&-w. Warbler	"	12	1	Amity Twp. Pitzrick
	"	21F	1	Ft. Niagara S.P. D'Anna, Potter
Prothonotary Warbler	"	3	1	Tonawanda WMA Endres
N. Waterthrush	"	16F	1	Eggertsville McKale
	"	21	1	Wheatfield Twp. Potter
La. Waterthrush	"	20F	1	Ft. Erie, Ont. O'Dell
Mourning Warbler	"	31F	1	Rock Pt. P.P. D'Anna et al
Wilson's Warbler	"	31F	1	Tifft Farm N.P. Andrie, Gregory
Canada Warbler	"	21F	1	Ft. Niagara S.P. D'Anna, Potter
	"	27	1	Wales O. Rosche
Orchard Oriole	"	24	1	Tifft Farm N.P. Collins
Purple Finch	"	1-31	2-4	Amity Lake & Twp. Pitzrick
	"	7	12	Boston Twp. Hess
Pine Siskin	"	8	2	Farmersville Station D&J Clark

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....252
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue..... 8
Total for year.....260

UPDATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Address changes:

Karen E. Geiger
11909 Boncliff
Alden, N.Y. 14004-9456

David Mark
380 South Ellicott Creek Rd.
Tonawanda, N.Y. 14150

Merle Malone
381 Richmond Ave.
Buffalo, N.Y. 14222

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

January 8: Joint meeting with Buffalo Audubon Society -
Dorothy Rolff - "Birds of Sanibel"

January 22: David Wilcove, a research biologist with the Nature
Conservancy, will discuss the decline of songbirds.

February 12: Jerry Farrell will bring us a report on the status of
migratory waterfowl.

For further information, contact Dick Christensen, Program Committee
Chairman, (632-7762)

FIELD TRIPS

January 5: Sunday. Niagara River for Gulls and Ducks.
Leader: Ed Crohn (839-2259) Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the
Vermont & Busti entrance to the Peace Bridge or at 9:15
at the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge on
the Canadian side of the river.

January 12: Sunday. Waterfowl Count for the Federation of NYS Bird
Clubs. The target date is Jan. 12 but any date between
Jan. 11 and Jan. 19 is acceptable. For assignment of
territory, call the coordinator, Marie Wendling-632-6625

- January 26: Sunday. Dunkirk Harbor Trip. Gulls and waterfowl are attracted by the warm water from the power plant. Joint trip with Lake Erie Bird Club. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Leisureland. (Take Exit 57 from I-90 onto Camp Rd. and go a short distance toward Route 5). Or meet at 9:00 a.m. at the main pier in Dunkirk, N.Y. Leader: Fran Rew (649-4192)
- February 2: Sunday. Gulls, ducks and other winter birds of lower Niagara River. Meet at Old Fort Niagara at 9:30 a.m. (This is the parking lot just outside the old fort, near the Coast Guard Station). The trip will go down the Ontario side to the leader's feeder on Niagara-on-the-Lake. Leader: Bill Vaughan (284-8709, business hrs.)
- February 23: Sunday. Canadian owl trip with Blayne Farnan. We will meet Wavel and Maxine Barber (683-3061) at the Vermont and Busti entrance to the Peace Bridge at 8:00 a.m., or in Fort Erie at the first parking lot south (upstream) of the Peace Bridge along the river at 8:15 a.m.
- March 2: Sunday. Ontario plains for winter birds. Meet at Tops Market in Lewiston at 8:30 a.m. Tops is across from the Lewiston exit of Route 104. Leaders: Harriette and Walter Klabunde (754-4424 - Lewiston).
- March 23: Sunday. Iroquois-Oak Orchard for ducks and geese. Meet at 8:00 a.m. in front of Citibank, Transitown Plaza (southeast corner of Main and Transit), or meet at 10:15 a.m. at Cayuga Pool overlook. Leader: Bill Burch (773-3690).
- March 29: (Saturday. Iroquois-Oak Orchard trip by Buffalo Audubon Society. Details same as in preceding entry.)
- April 13: Sunday. April B.O.S. Bird Count
- April 20: Sunday. Hawks at Grimsby, Ontario. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Lewiston-Queenston bridge parking lot on the American side for carpooling.
- April 28: Sunday. Braddock Bay for hawks. Joint trip with Genesee Ornithological Society. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Citibank, Transitown Plaza.

Usually these trips take most of a day so a lunch should be brought.

For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690); Grand Island, N.Y.

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Dr. Extension, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

* * * * *

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Notify the Treasurer : William Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, N.Y.
14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$10.00 per year, payable to the treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Pat Cordaro (printing),
Barbara Halvorsen (typing)

Editorial Board: Wavel Barber
Marian Dornhaffer
Bradley Lown
Julia Wells

EDITOR: Charles Halvorsen
9 Yale Place
Buffalo, New York 14210
(716) 826-9247

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY
THE
BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANI
LIBRARY

FEB 11 1980

VOLUME 51

OCTOBER 1985

ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

NUMBER 10

THE MONTH

September, a warm, dry month began with a nine day period of unseasonably hot and humid weather which slowed bird migration to a trickle before the first cold front of the season followed heavy rains on the 8th and 9th. However, by September 19th, the weather again became unseasonably warm and for the most part continued sunny and pleasant with below normal precipitation until month's end. The average temperature for the month was 64.2° (F), 2.1° above the mean while rainfall measured only 1.20 inches, 2.17 inches below normal. There were no noteworthy weather disturbances. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

The late summer heat of early September was dissipated by the arrival of a cold front on the 10th which deepened on brisk northwest winds the following day. Observers reported that the night skies over Buffalo on September 10th and 11th were filled with the calls of migrating southbound passerines. Arthur Clark of the Buffalo Museum of Science, whose study of the effect of television tower beacon lights on the mortality of nocturnal fall passerine migrants in southern Erie County is now in its 18th year, advised the writer that the two significant kills recorded in September occurred during the nights of the 9th-10th and 10th-11th in conjunction with the passage of the cold front. On September 10th, 127 individuals of 29 species were picked up at the bases of the three major television towers in Erie County; they included one Connecticut Warbler, a rare passage migrant on the Niagara Frontier in fall. On September 11th, the remains of 221 individuals of 33 species, including a Sedge Wren and two Connecticut Warblers, were recovered. This cold front was eagerly awaited by the hawk watchers in our ranks who make their annual trek to 'Hawk Cliff', a promontory on the Lake Erie shore east of Port Stanley in

Elgin County, Ontario at this time in anticipation of the event. Because of the prolonged period of unseasonably hot weather preceding the front this year, observers reported the fall passage of Broad-winged Hawks and other early fall raptor migrants to be virtually non-existent before this date. On September 11th, this writer had the good fortune to be one of several local bird-watchers who arrived at the lookout at 8:00 a.m. On brisk northwest winds with high cumulus cloud cover, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:15 p.m., when Bob Andrie and I took our leave of a group of 75 enthralled observers; we counted an estimated 22,000 raptors including 20,000 Broad-winged Hawks, 1000 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 700 American Kestrels, 75 Northern Harriers, 75 Red-tailed Hawks, nine Ospreys and five Bald Eagles, two of which were adult birds. Two of our number, Ward and Miriam Klepfer who remained at Port Stanley overnight, counted 15,000 Broad-wings, 300 Sharp-shins, 315 American Kestrels, three Bald Eagles and a Merlin before leaving at 1:00 p.m. on September 12th.

Other records of interest in September include three Great Egrets seen by Willie D'Anna and his party at the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area in Genesee County on the 29th. Two Great Egrets were also reported at the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve in Buffalo on September 10th. Bob Andrie counted 14 Black-crowned Night Herons at Times Beach on the Buffalo Waterfront on the 14th. There were several unusually early arrival dates of waterfowl of interest in September, including two Snow Geese seen by Don Endres at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on the 24th. Reports received at the Museum of Science tell of five early White-winged Scoters at Rock Point Provincial Park on September 5th. On the 29th, Willie D'Anna and his party reported ten Ring-necked Ducks and two Lesser Scaup Ducks at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge where Don Endres had seen six Ring-necks on September 10th.

There were several sightings of Ospreys in our study area in September, including birds seen by Don Endres at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on the 10th and 24th. Paul Hess reported an Osprey at the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve on September 5th which was subsequently seen by several observers, one of whom noticed it was carrying a large goldfish as prey! In Allegany County, Vivian Pitzric saw an osprey at Amity Lake in the Town of Alfred on the 28th. On September 15th, Bob Andrie and others on a BOS field trip in the Niagara Peninsula saw four Buff-breasted Sandpipers in a ploughed field on the Townline Road in Wainfleet Township. Three of these sandpipers had been seen at this location on the 11th. On September 2nd, Wavel and Maxine Barber saw a flock of 65 Black-bellied Plovers and six Lesser Golden Plovers in a field on the Hutchinson Road northwest of Lowbanks, Ontario.

There were few unusual gull sightings in September although the migratory passage of large numbers of Bonaparte's Gulls in our area continued throughout the month. There were no reports of Sabine's Gulls or Parasitic Jaegers and records of Little Gull sightings were far fewer than in the past two seasons. Bob Andrie and Dick Byron saw single immature Little Gulls at Bird Island pier in Buffalo on

September 6th and 12th. Greater Black-backed Gulls continue to increase in numbers. On September 5th, 35 were counted on Mohawk Island in Lake Erie east of Port Maitland where another 55 Greater Black-backs were counted on the east pier at the mouth of the Grand River on that date.

Finally, in addition to the Connecticut Warblers retrieved from among the TV tower casualties in September, Don Endres saw a live migrant of this species at Fort Niagara State Park on the 8th. A belated report from Tim Baird of Salamanca concerned an adult male Yellow-throated Warbler observed in full song at Science Lake in Allegany State Park in Cattaraugus County during the last week of June, 1985; the bird was also seen by Dr. Richard Clark at that time. Baird also remarked that there was no evidence of this species nesting in the park this summer (see Prothonotary, vol. 50:8, pg. 116, 1984) but this could be attributed to a lack of observers searching for it.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Ave., Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

SEPTEMBER NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (BOS 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Pied-bill. Grebe	September	5,6	1 Wales	O. Rosche
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	8	1 Mohawk Is., Ont.	Andrle et al
American Bittern	"	29	1 Tonawanda WMA	D'Anna et al
Gadwall	"	29F	2 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
Ring-necked Duck	"	29	10 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
Lesser Scaup	"	29	2 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
Hooded Merganser	"	8	4 Port Maitland, Ont.	Andrle et al
Common Merganser	"	8	1 Rock Pt. P.P.	Andrle et al
Ruddy Duck	"	28F	4 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Osprey	"	5	1 Tiffit Farm N.P.	Hess, Stettenbenz
"	9,10,24	1,1,1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	28	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Bald Eagle	"	2(imm)	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	10(Adult)	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	29(imm)	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres

Vol. 51, No. 10 "Noteworthy Records" con't.

Northern Harriers	Sept.	2	1	Lowbanks, Ont.	Barbers
	"	22	1	Amity Twp.	V+R Pitzrick
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	2, 12	1	Wales	O. Rosche
Cooper's Hawk	"	1	1	Wales	O. Rosche
	"	30	1	Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
Black-bell. Plover	"	8	14	Dunnville Twp. Ont.	Andrle et al
L. Golden Plover	"	2	6	Lowbanks, Ont.	Barbers
	"	8	8	Hartland Twp.	Endres
	"	8	13	Dunnville Twp. Ont.	Andrle et al
*Buff-br. Sandpiper	"	15	4	Dunnville Twp. Ont.	Chilton (BOS)
American Woodcock	"	2, 14	1, 1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Little Gull	"	6	1	Buffalo	Andrle et al
	"	12	1	Buffalo	Andrle, Byron
Caspian Tern	"	14L	1	Times Beach, Bflo.	Andrle
Common Nighthawk	"	15	1	Buffalo	Webster
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	"	1-17L	1-2	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	7, 10	1, 1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	15	1	Fort Niagara S.P.	Endres
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	20	1	Orchard Park	O'Dell
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	"	21F-29	1-3	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	26-28	1	Wales	O. Rosche
Olive-s. Flycatcher	"	8L	1	Dunnville Twp.	Andrle et al
Yellow-b. Flycatcher	"	10L	1	Times Beach, Bflo.	O'Dell
Gr. Cr. Flycatcher	"	18L	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Eastern Kingbird	"	22L	1	Sardinia	O'Dell
Bank Swallow	"	29L	1	Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
Tufted Titmouse	"	6	1	Silver Creek	S. Clarke
	"	18, 23, 28	1, 1, 1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	20	1	Cheektowaga	O'Dell
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	4-12	1-2	Silver Creek	S. Clarke
	"	8	11	Fort Niagara S.P.	Endres
	"	20	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	30	1	Buffalo	O'Dell
Brown Creeper	"	14F	2	Fort Niagara S.P.	D'Anna, Potter
Carolina Wren	"	29	1	Amherst Twp.	Christensen
					O. Rosche
Winter Wren	"	14F	5	Fort Niagara S.P.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	24, 29	1, 1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	30	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Endres
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	29F	1	Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	"	12F	1	Silver Creek	S. Clarke
	"	28, 30	3, 1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	"	2	1	Morgan's Pt., Ont.	Barbers
Eastern Bluebird	"	6-29	3-17	Amity Lake & Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	21	6	Pomfret Twp.	Moshers
	"	21, 22	2, 5	Sardinia	O'Dell
	"	28	8	Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
Gray-ch. Thrush	"	9F, 22	1, 2	Buffalo	Hess
	"	10, 21	3, 3	Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
	"	15	1	Fort Niagara S.P.	Endres
	"	23	1	Wheatfield Twp.	Potter
Hermit Thrush	"	23F	1	Wheatfield Twp.	Potter

Water Pipet	"	15F	8	Dunnville Twp. Ont. Chilton (BOS)
Solitary Vireo	"	7F	1	Iroquois NWR Endres
	"	23	1	Amity Twp. Pitzrick
Yellow-thr. Vireo	"	29L	1	Tonawanda WMA D'Anna et al
Warbling Vireo	"	19, 20L	1, 1	Amity Lake Pitzrick
Philadelphia Vireo	"	8F, 15	1, 1	Ft. Niagara S.P. Endres
	"	29	1	Lake Erie S.P. Mosher
Blue-w. Warbler	"	1L	1	Amity Lake Pitzrick
Nashville Warbler	"	8	1	Amity Lake Pitzrick
Yellow Warbler	"	20L	3	Cheektowaga O'Dell
Prairie Warbler	"	8L	2	Amity Lake Pitzrick
Blackpoll Warbler	"	12F	1	Pomfret Twp. Mosher
*Connecticut Warbler	"	8F	1	Ft. Niagara S.P. Endres
Mourning Warbler	"	3L	1	Amity Twp. Pitzrick
Wilson's Warbler	"	7	1	Iroquois NWR Endres
Lincoln's Sparrow	"	29F	1	Tonawanda WMA D'Anna et al
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	"	16F	1	Angola O'Dell
	"	23-30	10-30	Wales O'Rosche
Wh.-cr. Sparrow	"	23F	1	Wheatfield Twp. Potter
	"	29	1	Lake Erie S.P. Mosher
Dark-eyed Junco	"	14F	2	Ft. Niagara S.P. D'Anna, Potter
Rusty Blackbird	"	22F	1	Fluvanna Dister
	"	29	50	Oak Orchard WMA D'Anna et al
Purple Finch	"	1-23	1-3	Amity Lake Pitzrick
	"	14	7	Burgeson W.S. Dister

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....	260
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue plus	
Saw-whet Owl in June.....	3
Total for year.....	263

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

SPRING 1985 HAWK MIGRATION AT GRIMSBY AND RIPLEY

That the migration at Grimsby in 1985 was quite unusual did not become apparent until all the data was in, not only for Grimsby, but also for Braddock Bay and Derby Hill. During the month of March greater numbers of Redshoulders and Redtails came west around Lake Erie rather than continuing east. As a consequence, the peak migration of these buteos was two weeks earlier at Grimsby than normal. Thus March turned out to be a banner month with 4059 total raptors including 682 Redshoulders and 2542 Redtails. On the other hand, Braddock Bay and Derby Hill came up with unusually low counts for March. It was the first time that the Grimsby count for March was higher than the other two Lake Ontario lookouts.

The month of April was unique. There were no rainy, snowy or foggy days during the entire month. Then, April 4th and 21st each had five peak flights: Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, Northern Goshawk,

Rough-legged Hawk and Golden Eagle on the 4th of April and Sharp-shinned Hawks, Cooper's Hawks, Broadwinged Hawks, Rough-legged Hawks and American Kestrels on the 21st of April. But most unusual was the Swainson's Hawk (the first record for Grimsby) observed by Eric Single on April 21st. Not to be overlooked, this day also produced an all time record high of 7007 (all but 1000 were Broadwings). Fortunately, BOS picked this day for their visit to the lookout and witnessed a good portion of the flight. Unfortunately, all observers left at dinner time (6 PM EDT) when the flight was still going strong with over 1500 the last hour. This leaves considerable latitude in speculating what the actual count should have been.

Conversely, May turned out to be a dull month with only 398 raptors recorded. Unfortunately, with no coverage on five days, the report for May 4th is also missing.

Several seasonal records were set. The season's total, 19,274 was almost 5% above last year's high. The counts of both Bald and Golden Eagles, 10 and 12 respectively, was just double last year's high count. In addition, three unidentified eagles were recorded. Other species with record high counts included Turkey Vulture, Broadwings, Redtails and American Kestrels. Also, Merlins equalled the previous high set in 1982. So without question, the 1985 Grimsby hawkwatch was unusual.

The other lookout covered by BOS members was Ripley, N.Y. Fran and Lois Buck almost tripled their coverage and more than tripled their total count - 5067 raptors in 92 hours over 20 days vs. 1432 in 32 hours in 7 days last year.

An analysis of the species totals indicate that the migration path through the Ripley area must be much wider than what can be seen from the Forsythe Rd. lookout. Several species totals make this very evident, namely, Sharp-shins, Cooper's and both Bald and Golden Eagles are proportionately low. Also, the totals for April 20 & 21 are very low considering the peak numbers at Braddock Bay using 3 lookouts and Grimsby using 2 lookouts were over 13,500 and 8,200 respectively - vs. - 2,500 at Ripley.

Daily Counts - Species Key

TV	Turkey Vulture	BW	Broadwinged Hawk
OS	Osprey	RT	Red-tailed Hawk
BE	Bald Eagle	RL	Rough-legged Hawk
NH	Northern Harrier	GE	Golden Eagle
SS	Sharp-shinned Hawk	AK	American Kestrel
CH	Cooper's Hawk	ML	Merlin
NG	Northern Goshawk	PF	Perigrine Falcon
RS	Red-shouldered Hawk	UR	Unidentified Raptor

1985 Hawk Count for Grimsby, Ont. (Beamer + Grimsby Plains)

Date	Hrs.	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	RT	RL	GE	AK	UR	Total
March															
01	7.0				1	1				28	2		2		34
02	7.0				1					147			1		149
03	8.0				1				6	236	2		1	13	259
04	0	Snow & Freezing Rain													
05	0	Iced in													
06	7.0									15					15
07	7.0									2					2
08	7.0									5			1		6
09	8.0				1			1	3	349+	1		2	29	386
10	8.7	1			2	1	1	1	51	317	2		4	58	438
11	6.5				1	4	1		52	35	2		1	2	98
12	0	Rain - snow & high winds													
13+P	9.3	2						1	69	143			1	18	234
14+P	8.1				1		3		23	60			1	29	117
15	6.2	1					2		1	37					41
16	8.0				1	9	4		55	195		1	3	75	343
17	6.5						2	2	2	24			2		32
18	7.2				1	1	2	2	21	126		2	2	4	161
19	7.5					2	3		18	8			2		33
20	7.5					1	2		3	28			2	1	42
21	7.8	1			1	5	5	2	123	249	1		1	20	408
22	7.5	1			2	9	3	1	61	145	2	2	1	18	245
23	6.8			1			5	1	18	21	1		3	1	51
24	4.0	Snow & strong NW winds													
25	7.5						3		53	108	4		2	7	177
26	9.3	25			6	10	2		21	58			7	18	147
27	7.5	25	1		9	19	4	1	21	22			7	2	111
28	7.5	34			1	5	1		6	4			4		55
29	7.7	1			1	1			2	3			4	1	13
30	7.8	31		1	3	13	7	2	68	177	3	1	9	147	462
31	3.0	Snow & Freezing Rain													
Total	202.9	122	1	2	33	81	50	14	682	2542	20	6	63	443	4059

April Hawk Count for Grimsby, Ont. - Beamer + Plains & Airpark

Date	Hours	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	Unid.	Total
01	7.0							1	1								2	2
02	7.5								1								1	1
03	4.6																	
04+A	8.0	361+	1	2+	5	82	9	6+	19	3	112	6+	3+	11			37	657
05+A	8.2	45	3	1	11+	138	12	2	8		41	1		9	1	1	10	283
06	8.6	16	1			28	2		2		4			2			1	56
07	9.0	120			6	157	17		4		135			3			55*	497
08	7.8	39		1		10					10			2			5	67
09	7.5	3			1	6	2				30	1		5			3	51
10	7.5	3			1	30		1	2		7						1	45
11	8.0	15				59	4				52						4	134
12	8.0	17			6	218	8	1	10		108	1		6			71	446
13	8.0		3		3	39			4		29	1		5	1		7	92
14	9.0	11	6		6	516	2		7	18	34	5		8			56	669
15	10.4	35		1	10	385	2		5	50	40	2	1	3			33*	567
16	7.8	5				21				3							5	29
17	9.0	4			1	87	4		3	32	44	2						182
18	7.3	1	1		1	180				6	8			8				205
19	6.5					1												1
20	8.0	3		1	1	325			3	290	8	6+		4	1		636	636
21+P	13.5	61	3	1	9	761+	19+		12	6007+	45		1	12+	1	1	69°	7007
22	8.2	11	2		2	212	2			990	11						14	1246
23	7.6	7	8+			408	1			225	2	2		3			5	659
24	7.7	2				113	1			35	4	2					4	163
25	7.2	1				71	3			26	4						1	106
26	7.8	1	1			103	1			66	4			1	1		10	188
27	8.9	11	3		4	68	8		1	394	72	1					31*	593
28	8.0	3				6					6		1					17
29	8.4	6				44				31	11						10	102
30	7.2	5			2	79	1			13	12						2	114
Total	242.2	786	34	8	69	4147	99	11	82	3189	835	28	6	82	5	2	434	14817

* Includes 1 - UE

° Includes 1 - SW

1985 May Hawk Count for Grimsby, Ont. - Beamer

Date	Hours	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PF	UR	Total
1	6.5				1	2	1			3								7
2	7.0			1										1				2
3	7.0	7				5				1	4							17
4							No report											
5	9.3				2	16												18
6	6.0						Fog all day											
7	7.5					34				15	3			1				53
8	7.5	2				6	2			9	12						1	32
9	8.0	4			2	79				2	3						1	91
10	7.7	11			2	78				8	1			1				101
11	0						Not covered											
12	2.0	1				2				4								7
13	7.5	7			1	9				4	3			1				25
14	7.4	3				1				1								5
15	6.0					2											1	3
16	7.0	2			2	10				1	1							16
17	7.4										2							2
18	0						Not covered											
19	0						Not covered											
20	7.5				1	1				2								4
21	6.3					1												1
22	7.0	1									2							3
23	7.0					3												3
24	7.3																	0
25	0						Not covered											
26	0						Not covered											
27	0						Rain & fog											
28	7.0																	0
29	7.4										1							1
30	7.0	2				1					1			1				5
31	6.0					2												2
Total	164.3	40	1		11	252	3			50	33			5			3	398

1985 Total

Hours	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PF	UR	Total
608.5	948	36	10	113	4480	152	25	764	8239	3410	48	12	150	5	2	880	19274

1985 Hawk Count at Ripley, N.Y.- Forsythe Rd.

Date	Hours	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	AK	ML	UR	Total
Mar 09	5.7				1				2		101		5			109
10	6.8	1			3				22		136	2			1	165
11	1.5										3		1			4
26	6.5	33			2	11	1		23		85	1	3		2	161
27	5.0	94			1	32	1	1	8		61	2	3			203
March	25.5	128			7	43	2	1	55		386	5	12		3	642
Apr 04	1.5	29									2					31
05	7.0	375			1	67	1		2		63		14		3	526
06	1.2	2					1				1					4
07	4.0	42			1	3					24				1	71
13	7.0	43	15		9	98	4	1		9	19		2		8	208
14	4.0	41			3	70	1			17	32		12	1	2	179
18	2.0					1				1	1	1				4
20	6.5	21	5			41	1			1003	5					1076
21	7.8	93	8		2	112	3	1	6	1189	67		6		2	1489
22	4.5	40	6			40	1	1		229	16		1			334
26	6.0	66	1		3	95	6		1	95	25					292
27	2.0					1										1
28	2.5	7				2				3	9					21
April	56.0	759	35		19	530	18	3	9	2546	264	1	35		16	4236
May 04	4.3	32	1			3				2	8		2			48
05	6.3	67	10	1	4	32	1			14	8					137
May	10.6	99	11	1	4	35	1			16	16		2			185
1985																
Total	92.1	986	46	1	30	608	21	4	64	2562	666	6	49	1	19	5063

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

February 12: Jerry Farrell will bring us a report on the status of migratory waterfowl.

February 26: "New Zealand Birdlife" - Mitchell & Marjorie Harwitz will explore important issues in the evolution and present status of New Zealand birds.

For further information, contact Dick Christensen, Program Committee Chairman, (632-7762).

Vol. 51, No. 10 "Field Trips"

- February 2: Sunday. Gulls, ducks and other winter birds of lower Niagara River. Meet at Old Fort Niagara at 9:30 a.m. (This is the parking lot just outside the old fort, near the Coast Guard Station). The trip will go down the Ontario side to the leader's feeder on Niagara-on-the-Lake. Leader: Bill Vaughan (284-8709, Business hrs.)
- February 23: Sunday. Canadian owl trip with Blayne Farnan. We will meet Wavel and Maxine Barber (683-3061) at the Vermont and Busti entrance to the Peace Bridge at 8:00 a.m., or in Fort Erie at the first parking lot south (upstream) of the Peace Bridge along the river at 8:15 a.m.
- March 2: Sunday. Ontario plains for winter birds. Meet at Tops Market in Lewiston at 8:30 a.m. Tops is across from the Lewiston exit of Route 104. Leaders: Harriette and Walter Klabunde (754-4424 - Lewiston).
- March 23: Sunday. Iroquois-Oak Orchard for ducks and geese. Meet at 8:00 a.m. in front of Citibank, Transitown Plaza (southeast corner of Main and Transit), or meet at 10:15 a.m. at Cayuga Pool overlook. Leader: Bill Burch (773-3690).
- March 29: Saturday. Iroquois-Oak Orchard trip by Buffalo Audubon Society. Details same as in preceding entry.
- April 13: Sunday. April BOS Bird Count
- April 20: Sunday. Hawks at Grimsby, Ontario. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Lewiston-Queenston bridge parking lot on the American side for carpooling.
- April 28: Sunday. Braddock Bay for hawks. Joint trip with Genesee Ornithological Society. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Citibank, Transitown Plaza.

Usually these trips take most of a day so a lunch should be brought.

For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690); Grand Island, N.Y.

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-a-Bird.)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, N.Y. 14120

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Editorial Board: Wavel Barber
Marian Dornhaffer
Bradley Lown
Julia Wells

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

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THE PROTHONOTARY

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 51

NOVEMBER 1995

NUMBER 11

THE MONTH

Although October was for the most part cloudy and wet, the month ended with a prolonged period of cool and sunny weather. The average temperature for the period was 52.5° (F), one degree above normal; precipitation in the form of rain measured 3.73 inches, 0.80 inches above the mean. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

A series of weak cold fronts in October gave the impetus to several waves of migrants. The two most significant fronts coincided with major Society activities, the hosting of the annual meeting of the New York State Federation of Bird Clubs in the Town of Amherst on the weekend of October 11th-13th and the October Bird Count on the 20th. Heavy rain on October 10th preceded the cold front which flooded our study area with passerine migrants overnight including the first Evening Grosbeaks and Fox Sparrows of the season. The cold front on the 19th precipitated an excellent waterfowl flight for those observers participating in the October Bird Count on the following day. This count included 23 Common Loons, 12 Red-necked Grebes, 6,292 Lesser Scaup and 57 Hooded Mergansers, all record numbers and first arrival dates for migrant Tundra Swans, Black Scoters and Surf Scoters. In addition, this flight also yielded a count of 41 Pied-billed Grebes on Chautauqua Lake at Mayville with an additional 21 seen at the Burgeson Wildlife Sanctuary south of Jamestown. Ten Mute Swans were reported from Section 14 on the count date.

Other record numbers for the October Bird Count include 36 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 321 American Kestrels, 22 Red-bellied Woodpeckers, 30 Tufted Titmice, 26 Northern Mockingbirds, 669 Water Pipits, 900 Evening Grosbeaks and 1,592 House Finches.

October was a most interesting month afield. Terry Mosher reported ten Double-crested Cormorants in Dunkirk Harbor on October 10th and Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter saw eight at Fort Niagara State Park on the 14th; on the October Bird Count, David and Debbie Suggs saw 12 cormorants on Mohawk Island offshore from Rock Point Provincial Park on Lake Erie. During a field trip on October 13th, Willie D'Anna was able to show State Federation members three Great Egrets at the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area. Dave Dister and Dave Gagne reported a good flight of Ruddy Ducks on Chautauqua Lake during the last week of October, 55 at Celoron on the 27th and 43 at Mayville on the 28th. There was an unverified report of two Eurasian Wigeons at the Ring-neck Marsh on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on October 9th; unfortunately, they could not be located again the following day.

Among that record number of Sharp-shinned Hawks recorded on the October Bird Count were six migrants over Rock Point Provincial Park. Two adult Bald Eagles were seen all month at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge and Dave Gagne saw two immature Bald Eagles at the Allegheny Reservoir in Cattaraugus County on the 20th. Vivian Pitzrick reported an Osprey which remained all month at her residence at Amity Lake in the Town of Alfred in Allegany County until October 28th. Early on the cool morning of October 6th at Morgan's Point, Ontario, Brad Clements of Welland observed a large falcon carrying a small bird alighting briefly in the branches of a dead tree to which it returned after a brief circling flight to pluck and feed on its prey, an American Robin. Clements carefully noted the diagnostic field marks of this falcon including the black head with prominent 'whisker' marks below the eyes and he identified his find as an adult Peregrine Falcon, the first feral one he had ever seen.

On October 27th, Dave Dister reported six very late Short-billed Dowitchers feeding on the mudflats of a drained portion of the Allegheny Reservoir south of N.Y. Route #17 in Cattaraugus County. On October 3rd, Dave Gagne and Bob Sundell saw a Calidris sandpiper on a gravel bar at the mouth of Bemus Creek at Bemus Point on Chautauqua Lake which differed from the typical Semipalmated Sandpiper which it closely resembled by its longer bill drooping at tip and its rust-edged upper scapulars and faintly rust colored forehead. They identified the bird as a Western Sandpiper, a rare passage migrant on the Niagara Frontier. Gagne confirmed the identification on the following day when he again saw the bird in company with a Semipalmated Sandpiper and, in addition to the morphological differences, heard its call note, described as a "mouse-like 'jeep'" which contrasted with the harsher 'chit' call of the Semipalmated. It was still present at that location as late as October 11th.

Yet another Allegany County resident recounts his adventures with Northern Ravens. On October 26th, Wisner Cook of Andover was driving on the Davis Hill Road in that township when he saw a large corvid flying just above treetop level over a wooded area bisected by the road. The bird was indulging in what Cook described as "a most

beautiful aerobatic display" on air currents and it was joined by a second corvid, swooping and soaring gracefully until they flew off in a southerly direction. The huge size of the birds and their long 'V-pointed' tails identified them unmistakably as Northern Ravens. During the previous spring, he witnessed the soaring flight of a raven over a field near this location; for the past two years he has seen several single ravens in flight in the Town of Andover and heard their guttural croaks as they passed overhead.

Finally, on October 27th, Dave Gagne stopped to scrutinize two icterids he saw feeding in manure in close proximity to a cow in a field on the Hardenburg Road in the Town of Westfield in Chautauqua County. The birds proved to be two male Brewer's Blackbirds with their relatively long legs and characteristic black plumage with an iridescent greenish gloss on the wings, back and tail clearly visible.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Ave. Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

OCTOBER NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (BOS 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Abbreviation: FNYSBC - FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS FIELD TRIP.

Common Loon	October	3F	2 Chautauqua Lake	Gagne, Sundell
	"	27	6 Chautauqua Lake	Gagne
Pied-billed Grebe	"	20	41 Mayville	Gagne
	"	25	16 Burgeson WS	Dister
Horned Grebe	"	14F	6 Lewiston Resvr.	D'Anna, Potter
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	10F	10 Dunkirk Harbor	T&J Mosher
	"	13	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Bryants
	"	14	8 Fort Niagara SP	D'Anna, Potter
Great Egret	"	13L	3 Tonawanda WMA	FNYSBC
B.-cr. Night Heron	"	26	4 Times Beach, Bflo	Andrle
Tundra Swan	"	30	2 Burgeson WS	Dister
Mute Swan	"	26	1 Times Beach, Bflo	Andrle
Snow Goose	"	13	1 Iroquois NWR	FNYSBC
Canada Goose	"	2F-13	54 max. Amity Lake	V&R Pitzrick
	"	4	90 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	4, 7	24, 23 Wales	O. Rosche

Vol. 51, No. 11 "Noteworthy Records"

Northern Pintail	October	13F	10	Iroquois NWR	FNYSBC
Northern Shoveler	"	4	1	Chautauqua Lake	Gagne
	"	28	17	Cuba Lake	Barbers
Gadwall	"	13	12	Iroquois NWR	FNYSBC
	"	27	25	Burgeson WS	Gagne
Canvasback	"	19F	6	Lewiston Resvr.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	27	12	Mayville	Gagne
Redhead	"	13F	2	Iroquois NWR	FNYSBC
	"	27	180	Mayville	Gagne
	"	27	74	Celoron	Dister
Greater Scaup	"	26	300	Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	27	190	Barcelona Harbor	Gagne
Lesser Scaup	"	14	2000	Lewiston Resvr.	D'Anna, Potter
Oldsquaw	"	27	2	Fort Niagara SP	D'Anna et al
	"	31	2	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Black Scoter	"	26, 27	1	Niagara Falls	D'Anna et al
Surf Scoter	"	25, 28, 30	3, 5, 10+	Buffalo Harbor	O'Dell
White-w. Scoter	"	14F	3	Lewiston Resvr.	D'Anna, Potter
Common Goldeneye	"	26	12	Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Potter
Bufflehead	"	26	35	Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Potter
	"	27	25	Mayville	Gagne
Hooded Merganser	"	13	13	Iroquois NWR	FNYSBC
	"	27	13	Westfield Twp.	Gagne
	"	28	1	Cuba Lake	Barbers
Red-br. Merganser	"	26	3	Bemus Point	Gagne
Ruddy Duck	"	11-20	1-8	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	13	7	Iroquois NWR	FNYSBC
	"	27	55	Celoron	Dister, Gagne
	"	28	43	Mayville	Dister
Osprey	"	2-28L	1	Amity Lake	Pitzricks, Adams
	"	9	1	Wellsville	Pitzrick
Bald Eagle	"	11, 12, 24, 27	1-2	Iroquois NWR	Endres
			(Adults)		
	"	27	1	Iroquois NWR	Becker
Northern Harrier	"	4	1	Clarence Turf Fms.	Hess
	"	26	1	Iroquois NWR	Hess
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	3, 30	1, 1	Wales	O. Rosche
	"	4, 14	1, 1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	12	1	Burgeson WS	Gagne
	"	13	1	Iroquois NWR	FNYSBC
	"	27	1	Hamburg	Andrle, Gregory
Cooper's Hawk	"	10	1	Depew	Barbers
	"	27	1	Tifft Farm NP	Andrle, Gregory
	"	28	2	Black Creek	Barbers
Rough-legged Hawk	"	27	1	Pomfret Twp.	Gagne
	"	27	1	Iroquois NWR	Becker
Peregrine Falcon	"	6	1	Morgan's Pt., Ont	Clements
Virginia Rail	"	27L	1	Kiantone	Gagne
Common Moorhen	"	13L	1	Iroquois NWR	FNYSBC
American Coot	"	27	500	Mayville	Gagne
Black-bell. Plover	"	3	1	Bemus Point	Gagne, Sundell
L. Golden Plover	"	13	2	Clarence Turf Fms.	FNYSBC
Semipalmated Plover	"	3, 4	1	Bemus Point	Gagne, Sundell

Vol. 51, No. 11 "Noteworthy Records"

Spotted Sandpiper	October	13	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Ruddy Turnstone	"	13	1	Dunkirk	Gagne, Bryants
Semipalm. Sandpiper	"	11L	1	Bemus Point	Gagne
*Western Sandpiper	"	3	1	Bemus Point	Gagne, Sundell
	"	4, 11	1	Bemus Point	Gagne
Least Sandpiper	"	11L	2	Bemus Point	Gagne
Dunlin	"	1F	2	Buffalo	D'Anna
	"	4	5	Bemus Point	Gagne
Short-b. Dowitcher	"	27L	6	Allegany Resvr.	Dister
Little Gull	"	1, 5, 6	1-3	Niagara River	D'Anna, Potter
Gr. Black-b. Gull	"	27	141	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne
Caspian Tern	"	7L	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Mahoney
Common Nighthawk	"	1-5L	4-5	Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
Chimney Swift	"	9L	5	Jamestown	Gagne
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	14	1	Sheldon	O. Rosche
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	1	1	Silver Creek	Neveu
	"	13	1	Clarence Twp.	FNYSBC
	"	31	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
E. Wood Pewee	"	11L	1	Silver Creek	Neveu
Tree Swallow	"	13	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Common Raven	"	26	2	Andover	Cook
Tufted Titmouse	"	10	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	"	13, 31	1, 2	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	17-18	1	Holland	Becker
	"	30, 31	2	Silver Creek	Neveu
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	1-20	2	Silver Creek	Neveu
	"	21	1, 1	Pomfret Twp.	T&J Mosher
Carolina Wren	"	7	1	Amherst Twp.	Christenson
Winter Wren	"	2	3	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Endres
	"	11	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	"	11, 16	1, 1	Silver Creek	Neveu
	"	13	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	27	1	Burgeson WS	Gagne
Eastern Bluebird	"	4-17	1-21	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	19	3	N. Harmony	Gagne, Sundell
	"	27	4	Pomfret Twp.	Gagne, Mosher
Swainson's Thrush	"	13L	1	Depew	Barbers
Hermit Thrush	"	11	1	Amherst	Cooper
	"	11-17	1	Depew	Barbers
N. Mockingbird	"	2	7	Niagara Falls, Ont	Endres
Brown Thrasher	"	7, 16	1, T	Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	19	1	Sheldon	O. Rosche
Water Pipet	"	7	10	Wales	O. Rosche
	"	13	15	Clarence Turf Fms.	FNYSBC
	"	27	35	Pomfret Twp.	Gagne
Northern Shrike	"	27	1	Westfield Twp.	Gagne
	"	31	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Tennessee Warbler	"	11L	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Orange-cr. Warbler	"	11	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Nashville Warbler	"	26L	1	Times Beach, Bflo	Andrie
Cape May Warbler	"	12L	2	Williamsville Glen	FNYSBC
Indigo Bunting	"	3L	1	Springville	O'Dell

Vol. 51, No. 11 "Noteworthy Records"

Amer. Tree Sparrow	Oct. 21-31	1-3	Wales	O. Rosche
"	" 29	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Savannah Sparrow	" 19	2	N. Harmony	Gagne, Sundell
Fox Sparrow	" 11F	1	Point Gratiot	T&J Mosher
"	" 11F	3	Forest Lawn, Bflo	O'Dell
"	" 12	1	Amherst	Cooper
"	" 25, 27	1, 1	Burgeson WS	Gagne
"	" 29	1	Cassadaga	T&J Mosher
"	" 29, 31	11, 7	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Snow Bunting	" 27F	1	Chautauqua Lake	Gagne
"	" 27F	5	Barcelona Harbor	Gagne
Brewer's Blackbird	" 27	2	Westfield	Gagne
Purple Finch	" 4-21	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	" 9, 30	1, 1	Wales (f)	O. Rosche
"	" 19	40	Poland	Gagne, Sundell
*Common Redpoll	" 27F	7	Mayville	Gagne
Pine Siskin	" 12F	1	Burgeson WS	Gagne
"	" 19	9	Ellery	Gagne, Sundell
"	" 21	9	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
Evening Grosbeak	" 11F	3	Amherst	Cooper
"	" 11F-28	5-21	Alfred	Klingensmith
"	" 12	3	Tifft Farm NP	Pitzrick (FNYSBC)
"	" 12	6	Burgeson WS	Gagne

(Many reports of flocks through the month.)

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....	263
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue (including Oct. bird count).....	3
Total for year.....	266

ADDENDA

1980

<u>Ivory Gull</u>	December	22	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Gustafson (identifiable photograph)
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1984

Forster's Tern	December	8	1	Niagara R. Whirlpool Rapids	McLaughlin
White-eyed Vireo	May	27	1	Allegheny R. Salamanca	Baird
	June	4, 28	1	Allegheny R. Salamanca	Baird
Pine Grosbeak	December	21	24	Ridgeway, Ont.	Sommerville

1985

Surf Scoter	March	3	2	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Forster's Tern	May	19	1	Twn. of Ellery	Sundell
Acadian Flycatcher	June	16	1	Ivory	Dister

1985

Acadian Flycatcher	June	24	1 Twn.of Newstead	Wagner
Lawrence's Warbler	May	19, 21, 23	1 Twn. of Poland	Heilman
Orchard Oriole	May	19	2 T. of So. Valley	Sundell
Pine Siskin	July	11, 21	2 Farmersville Station	D. Clark
Evening Grosbeak	June	9	2 T. of E. Concord	Hansen

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Eastern Bluebird Summary - 1985

(Editor's note, the following is a summary of Vivian Pitzrick's detailed observations of Eastern Bluebird nests in the Amity Lake area during the 1985 breeding season.)

25 pairs of adults fledged 129 young. 41 nestings with 32 successful (78% successful). Lost to: Weather, 3 nests; predation (no racoons), 3 nestings; House Wrens, 3 nests. 9 pairs nested once and 16 pairs nested the second time. Average egg clutch size of accessible nests: 4.6 eggs; of first nestings only, 4.5 eggs/nest; of second nestings only, 4.4 eggs/nesting. 8 infertile eggs. 30 nests in 4" square and 11 nests in 5" square-floored boxes. Of successful nests, blow-fly parasitism was 53% of first nestings (av. 32 larvae/n) and 85% of second nestings (46 larvae/n). To favor the chalcid, Mormoniella sp., which parasitizes the blowfly larvae and which overwinters to emerge in the spring, materials from second nestings were left in the boxes.

Vivian Pitzrick
Belmont, New York

1986 Hawk Watch at Pinehurst

Walter Klabunde is looking for more than a few good birders to assist in the spring 1986 Hawk migration observation and reporting project. The watch will extend from March 1 to May 31, 1986. Anyone wishing to participate is asked to contact Walter at 754-4424. He will supply all of the necessary forms and coordinate scheduling. This is an excellent opportunity to observe large numbers of several species.

Correction:

The October, 1985 issue failed to credit Walter Klabunde as the author of the report on the Spring 1985 Hawk Migration at Grimsby and Ripley.

UPDATE TO MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Welcome New Members:

David N. Gagne
40 Catlin Ave.
Jamestown, N. Y. 14701
Corresponding Member

Donald C. Roberson
924 Creekside Drive
Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304
Tel. 283-5359
Associate member

Bonney Harnish
819 Auburn Avenue
Buffalo, N.Y. 14222
Tel. 882-7956
Associate Member

Membership Roster Changes:

David & Janice Bigelow
City phone #: 882-4747

Peggy Daniels should be Peggy Daniels Clukey

Robert F. Schrader's address should be Edgewater, Fla. 32032

Congratulations to new Active Members:

Dr. Edward Crohn
Charles Halvorsen
Barbara Halvorsen
Mary Ann Stegmeier

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

February 26: New Zealand Birdlife - Mitchell and Marjorie Harowitz will explore important issues in the evolution and present status of New Zealand birds.

March 12: Plans for Restoring the Peregrin Falcon as a Breeding Bird on the Niagara Frontier. Can the Buffalo Ornithological Society Help? will be presented by Mary Ellen Foley, representing the Peninsula Field Naturalists from Canada.

- March 26: Between the North Pole and Norway: Birds in Arctic Spitsbergen, by Øivind Tøien and Dr. Herman Rahn. From an expedition to the northern-most society in the world to the study of incubation physiology.
- April 9: The Art of Avian Name Calling or the Eponymy of it All. Wavell Barber will tell us about some of the common names of birds, the origins and translation of their scientific names and will give a few brief biographies of the people for whom the birds of North America were named. Do you know what very common bird was given a scientific name "who, what kind"? Find out this meeting.

FIELD TRIPS

- March 2: Sunday. Ontario plains for winter birds. Meet at Tops Market in Lewiston at 8:30 a.m. Tops is across from Lewiston exit on Route 104. Leaders: Walt and Harriette Klabunde (754-4424) and Will D'Anna (1-731-4348).
- March 23: Sunday. Iroquois-Oak Orchard for ducks and geese. Meet at 8:00 a.m. in front of Citibank, Transitown Plaza (southeast corner of Main and Transit), or meet at 10:15 a.m. at Cayuga Pool overlook. Leader: Bill Burch (773-3690).
- March 29: Saturday. Iroquois-Oak Orchard trip by Buffalo Audubon Society. Details same as in preceding entry.
- April 13: Sunday. April Bird Count. For a territory call the compiler, Tom Harper (1-547-9563).
- April 20: Sunday. Hawks at Grimsby, Ontario. Trip also may include bluebirds, plus shorebirds and ducks at Smithville Lagoon. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge parking lot on the American side of the river. Leader: Walt Klabunde (754-4424 - Lewiston).
- April 26: Saturday (For Daylight Saving Time, set clock forward one hour Saturday evening!)
- April 27: Sunday. Braddock Bay Hawk Watch, joint trip with Genesee Ornithological Society. Although mainly for migrating hawks, this trip is noted for western meadow-lark, Brewer's blackbird and other good finds. Meet at Citibank, Transitown Plaza (Main & Transit) at 7:00 a.m. to join the GOS at the Braddock Bay park shelter at 9:30 a.m. Leaders: Mike Zebehazy (655-4777) and Jean & Bill Dingerson (1-473-9832).

May 10 & 11: Saturday and Sunday. Presque Isle and Pymatuning Weekend, joint trip with Buffalo Audubon Society. Saturday at Presque Isle near Erie, Pa., Saturday dinner at Linesville, Pa.; Sunday at Pymatuning Reservoir. Call Mary Saville (662-5215) for reservations. Note: Presque Isle, 80 miles from Buffalo is a warbler staging area and can be a hot spot at this time. A one-day trip there is well worth while.

May 11: Sunday. Tifft Farm and Times Beach. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in the Tifft parking lot. This is a half-day outing for warblers and other migrants. Leader: Will D'Anna (1-731-4348).

May 18: Sunday. May Bird Count. For a territory, call the compiler Bob Brock (876-5862).

Usually these trips take most of a day so a lunch should be brought.

For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690); Grand Island, N.Y.

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-a-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Dr. Extension, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, N.Y. 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$10.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people. Pat Cordaro (printing), Barbara Halvorsen (typing)

EDITOR: Charles Halvorsen, 9 Yale Pl. Buffalo, N.Y. 14210
(716) 826-9247

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
1986 REPORT FORM

MARCH WINTERING-BIRD SURVEY
Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird,
Cardinal, and House Finch

REPORT MUST BE IN BY APRIL 10th!

SEND REPORT TO:

Margaret Wright
Versailles 120
4545 Chestnut Rd
Williamsville, NY
14221
688--9438

SPECIES	MARCH '86	No. of Birds at Feeders	No. of Birds seen elsewhere	Nos. of Sections studied	Any Unusuals?
TUFTED TITMOUSE	1-8				
	9-15				
	16-22				
	23-31				
CAROLINA WREN	1-8				
	9-15				
	16-22				
	23-31				
MOCKING BIRD	1-8				
	9-15				
	16-22				
	23-31				
CARDINAL	1-8				
	9-15				
	16-22				
	23-31				
HOUSE FINCH	1-8				
	9-15				
	16-22				
	23-31				

TOTAL NO. OF OBSERVERS:

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF OBSERVERS:

MEMBERS OF B.O.S.?

yes _____ no _____

IT'S OUR LAST CHANCE!!

Dear I.O.S. Members and Friends:

It doesn't seem possible that the last March of our 5-year Wintering Bird Survey held annually since the first one in 1982 is really here.

Each year we've had a fairly good number of members and friends on both sides of the border participate in and support this project of the club's Research Committee.

Seventy-one Canadian and American observers helped out last year, reporting from 15 sections. This was good..but not enough! We must try to broaden our search and increase our number of sightings. We need more coverage of sections 5,6,7, 15,17,18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 26 and 27.

Please give your friends and neighbors a report form and ask them to watch their feeders for our birds, even if it's only on weekends.

Spread the news!-- Get the word out that we want and expect a bigger and better report of these birds in 1986!

THEIR SIGHTS AND SOUNDS ARE ALL AROUND! GO GET 'EM!

Marg Wright, compiler

PL
671
296
101,51
10,12
985

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THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 51

DECEMBER 1985

NUMBER 12

THE MONTH

The month was cloudy, mild and wet, indeed the wettest November in the annals of local meteorology; it was also the month of the third highest rainfall ever recorded. Following a sunny and mild first day, heavy rain began on November 2nd and continued for three days, a residual of Hurricane Juan moving down the Atlantic Coast. Intermittent rainfall daily from November 7th through 16th was attributed to a stationary weather system blocking cold fronts from the northwest and keeping the northeastern part of the continent in a mild and wet state until the 21st when the first significant snowfall of the season occurred in the Buffalo area and brought more seasonable conditions until month's end. The average temperature for the month was 42.0° (F), 1.7° above the norm while precipitation in the form of rain measured 9.75 inches, a record 7.1 inches above average. Total snowfall for the month at Buffalo measured only 5.2 inches, 7.2 inches below average for the period. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Perhaps the miserable weather conditions gave rise to the excellent waterfowl migration in November. On the 3rd, Dave Gagne counted 159 Common Loons on Lake Erie at Bourne's Beach in the Town of Westfield in Chautauqua County; he also saw an additional 14 loons at Point Gratiot west of Dunkirk Harbor on that date. Terry Mosher and his party saw 15 Common Loons on Van Buren Bay in the Town of Pomfret on November 15th. On the 13th, Don Endres saw two Red-throated Loons among a number of ducks at the Center Marsh on Sour Springs Road in the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge in Orleans County. Both birds were in winter plumage and the diagnostic upturned bills of this species were clearly visible. On November 9th, Bill Bogacki located a Red-necked Grebe near a flock of Canvasbacks estimated in excess of

1000 birds just above the water level control gate in the upper Niagara River at Niagara Falls, Ontario.

The first significant Tundra Swan flight of the season was reported on November 8th when Dave Dister saw 37 birds on Chautauqua Lake at Mayville. A flock of 63 swans was reported from that location on the 17th and 20 were counted on the 23rd by Bob Sundell and Dave Gagne. Four Tundra Swans were seen at Fort Niagara State Park by participants in the joint B.O.S. - Genesee Ornithological Society field trip on November 17th. There was only one report of Brant in our study area this month, a single bird seen by Willie D'Anna in the north harbor at LaSalle Park in Buffalo. Other interesting waterfowl include 33 Gadwall seen by Dave Gagne at Burgeson Wildlife Sanctuary in the Town of Kiantone in Chautauqua County on November 3rd. Between the 3rd and the 25th, Vivian Pitzrick reported 77 Ring-necked Ducks on Amity Lake in the Town of Alfred in Allegany County while in Chautauqua County, Terry Mosher and his party counted 225 Ring-necks on the Crawford Road Marsh in the Town of Chautauqua on November 9th. Dave Gagne reported 44 Ring-necked Ducks at Allegany State Park on the 30th. During the joint B.O.S. - G.O.S. trip on the 17th, an immature male King Eider was seen at Fort Niagara State Park and Paul Hess reported two King Eiders at Niagara-on-the-Lake on the 30th. A very large Hooded Merganser flight through our area was reported in November, including 1070 birds seen by Dave Dister, 400 at Mayville and 670 at Maple Bay, Lakewood on Chautauqua Lake on the 29th. Don Endres saw 191 Hooded Mergansers at Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on that date. A large flock of American Coots, estimated at 750 birds was reported on Chautauqua Lake on November 23rd and a similar number was seen on the 29th.

Purple Sandpipers were reported by several observers among the rocks of the upper Niagara River during November. Wavel and Maxine Barber counted five among the rocks of the Goat Island shore on the 23rd. One Purple Sandpiper was seen on the pier at Dunkirk Harbor by Dave Dister on November 17th and another, perhaps the same bird, at adjacent Wright Park beach by Bob Sundell and Dave Gagne on the 23rd.

There was no evidence of gulls from the Arctic in our region until November 17th but on the 11th, Dave Dister identified an adult Laughing Gull in winter plumage among a group of Ring-billed Gulls on the lawn of the Yacht Club Marina at Dunkirk Harbor. On the 17th, ten species of gulls were seen on the Niagara River between Niagara Falls, Ontario and Niagara-on-the-Lake. These included an adult Iceland Gull and an adult Glaucous Gull in the upper river while an immature Glaucous Gull and a Lesser Black-backed Gull were seen in the gorge below the falls. An adult Common Black-headed Gull, first reported on November 17th, was subsequently seen by many observers until the end of the month as it coursed the lower river between the sand dock at Queenston and the Lewiston Bridge. An adult Franklin's Gull was seen in the lower river gorge north of the Rainbow Bridge at Niagara Falls most of the month by many observers. On November 23rd, Bruce Chilton identified a first winter Thayer's Gull perched on a

large rock near the shoreline of the river below the Horseshoe Falls; he distinguished it from the almost identical first winter Herring Gulls nearby by its lighter brown plumage color and the pale brown tips of the primary feathers of the wings.

Lesser Black-backed Gulls were much in evidence at Niagara Falls and in the lower river gorge during the weekend of November 23-24th, their presence coinciding with a visit to the area by Peter Grant, the internationally recognized authority on the field identification of gulls, who was leading the 'Wings' birding group tour. (11 species of gulls were seen that weekend.) On the 24th, Don Endres saw two adult Lesser Black-backed Gulls, one at the shoreline and a second 100 yards offshore in the Niagara River above the Horseshoe Falls. Both birds appeared to have a dark gray mantle characteristic of the Western European race, L.f.graellsii. In contrast, one of two Lesser Black-backed Gulls found among the hundreds of Ring-necked and Herring Gulls perched on the roof of the water intake below the visitors overlook at the Adam Beck Hydro complex later that afternoon appeared to have the solid black mantle of the nominate race L.f.fuscus, a far rarer visitor to eastern North America.

The only official record of Black-legged Kittiwake received by the compiler in November concerned an immature bird picked up dead on the beach at Wright Park in Dunkirk by Bob Sundell and Dave Gagne on the 23rd, although a live specimen was seen among the gulls at Niagara Falls on the 17th.

Other interesting records received in November include a report of two Tree Swallows seen by Don Endres at the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area on the 23rd, one bird flying over a pond on the Meadville Road in the Town of Alabama in Genesee County and the second at a pond east of the visitors' parking lot on N.Y. Route #77 in the Town of Royalton in Niagara County. Lingerling Marsh Wrens were reported by Dave Dister. On November 25th he found one in a marshy area bordering a pond at the Burgeson Wildlife Sanctuary in the Town of Kiantone and on the following day he discovered a second wren in a cattail marsh at West Mud Lake in Chautauqua County. Both birds responded to Dister's "spishing" technique to lure them out of dense cover for observation. On November 27th, Bruce Chilton was examining a flock of 100 Cedar Waxwings feeding on Russian Olive berries in shrubbery at the edge of a golf course on the Lockport-Youngstown Road in the Town of Porter in Niagara County when he noticed that one bird was much grayer in plumage and larger than its companions. He identified it as a Bohemian Waxwing by its white wing markings and russet undertail coverts. On the same day, Wavel and Maxine Barber stopped on the Niagara Parkway near Chippawa, Ontario to look over a flock of some 50 Cedar Waxwings and recognized a Bohemian Waxwing among them, again by the diagnostic reddish-rusty undertail coverts, gray plumage and white wing spot.

On November 11th, Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter found a late Solitary Vireo in the company of kinglets and Tree Sparrows in a

wooded area near Four Mile Creek State Park in the Town of Porter. On November 3rd, Frances Rew reported a flock of 26 Lapland Longspurs on the Cassadaga Road in the Town of Charlotte in Chautauqua County.

Finally, field observations in Niagara County were enlivened by the influx of Pine Grosbeaks among the winter finches visiting the area. On November 2nd, Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter saw a flock of 15 Pine Grosbeaks at the edge of a conifer plantation on Lutts Road in the Town of Porter. Four of the grosbeaks were the eye-catching pinkish red adult males. The observers were attracted to these birds by their loud and distinctive call notes.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Ave., Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

NOVEMBER NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

<u>Red-throated loon</u>	November 13	2 iroquois NWR	Endres
<u>Common Loon</u>	" 3	159 Westfield	Gagne
	" 3	14 Point Gratiot	Gagne
	" 9	15 Van Buren Bay	Mosher et al
	" 9,23	1,4 Niagara Falls	Chilton
Pied-billed Grebe	" 1-13	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick, Adams
Red-necked Grebe	" 9F	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Bogacki
D.-crest. Cormorant	" 3,23	1,1 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Sundell
	" 9	6 Van Buren Bay	Mosher et al
	" 10,24	1,1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Endres
	" 17	1 Barcelona Harbor	Dister, O'Brien
	" 29	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Barbers
Tundra Swan	" 8	37 Mayville	Dister
	" 17	63 Chautauqua Lake	Dister
	" 17	4 Fort Niagara SP	Byron (BOS-GOS)
	" 23	20 Mayville	Gagne, Sundell
Brant	" 20F	1 Buffalo	D'Anna
Northern Shoveler	" 24	1 Burgeson WS	Gagne
Gadwall	" 3	33 Burgeson WS	Gagne
Ring-necked Duck	" 3-25	77(max) Amity Lake	Pitzrick, Adam
	" 9	225 Chautauqua Twp.	Mosher et al
	" 30	44 Allegany SP	Gagne et al

Vol. 51, No. 12 "Noteworthy Records" con't.

King Eider	Nov.	17F	1	Fort Niagara SP	Byron(BOS-GOS)
	"	30	2	Niag.-on-Lake, Ont.	Hess et al
Black Scoter	"	27	4	Niagara Falls	Chilton
	"	30	3	Times Beach, Bf.	Hess
	"	30	15	Buffalo Harbor	Hess
Surf Scoter	"	30	15	Buffalo Harbor	Hess
White-w. Scoter	"	9, 23	1, 1	Niagara Falls	Chilton
Hooded Merganser	"	9	29	Chautauqua Twp.	Mosher et al
	"	14, 17	200, 240	Chautauqua Lake	Dister
	"	16	14	Tifft Farm NP	Bogacki
	"	23	1070	Chautauqua Lake	Gagne, Sundell
	"	27	15	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Chilton
	"	29	625	Chautauqua Lake	Gagne
	"	29	191	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Ruddy Duck	"	17	46	Chautauqua Lake	Dister
	"	23	50	Mayville	Gagne, Sundell
	"	29	64	Mayville	Gagne
Bald Eagle	"	17	1 (imm.)	Fluvanna	Dister
Northern Harrier	"	24	1	Iroquois NWR	Chilton
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	2-9	1	Wales	O. Rosche
	"	29	1	Pomfret Twp.	Gagne
Cooper's Hawk	"	2, 7	1, 1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	8	1	Wales	O. Rosche
Red-should. Hawk	"	3L	1	Burgeson WS	Gagne
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	6	1	Alabama Twp.	Endres
	"	10	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	18	1	Tifft Farm NP	Bogacki
	"	29	1	Iroquois NWR	Chilton
American Coot	"	23	750	Mayville	Gagne, Sundell
	"	29	750	Mayville	Gagne
Killdeer	"	16L	7	Charlotte Twp.	Rew
Lesser Yellowlegs	"	2, 5, 6L	3, 1, 12	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Purple Sandpiper	"	9F	1	Niagara Falls	Chilton
	"	17	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Dister, O'Briens
	"	23	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Sundell
	"	23	5	Goat Island	Barbers
Common Snipe	"	16L	1	Charlotte Twp.	Rew
American Woodcock	"	1L	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Laughing Gull	"	11	1	Dunkirk	Dister
Franklin's Gull	"	23	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Chilton
	"	23, 30	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna et al
Little Gull	"	11	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Chilton
	"	17	2	Fort Niagara SP	Byron(BOS-GOS)
	"	17	2	Queenston	Byron(BOS-GOS)
	"	24	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne
	"	24	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Endres
Iceland Gull	"	23F	1	Adam Beck Hydro	Chilton
<u>L. Black-b. Gull</u>	"	17F	1	Adam Beck Hydro	D'Anna et al
	"	23	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	24	2	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Endres
Gr. Black-b. Gull	"	29	169	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne
<u>*Bl.-leg. Kittiwake</u>	"	23	1	Dunkirk	Sundell, Gagne
(picked up dead)					

Vol. 51, No. 12 "Noteworthy Records"

Long-eared Owl	Nov.	11	1	Porter Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
Short-eared Owl	"	17F	1	Youngstown	Chilton
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	"	18	1	Silver Creek	S. Clarke
Tree Swallow	"	10, 23L	2, 1	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-30	2	Silver Creek(f)	Neveu
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	7	1	Wales	O. Rosche
	"	22-30	2	Silver Creek(f)	S. Clarke
	"	23	1	Jamestown	Sundell
	"	29	1	Olcott	Chilton
Winter Wren	"	3	1	Burgeson WS	Gagne
	"	29	1	Lake Erie SP	Gagne
Marsh Wren	"	25	1	Burgeson WS	Dister
	"	26L	1	Black Corners	Dister
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	"	TTL	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
Eastern Bluebird	"	12	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Hermit Thrush	"	12	2	Tifft Farm NP	Bogacki
N. Mockingbird	"	3	2	Depew	Barbers
	"	29	1	Pomfret Twp.	Gagne
	"	30	1	Niag-on-Lake, Ont	Hess
*Bohemian Waxwing	"	27	1	Porter Twp.	Chilton
	"	29	1	Chippawa, Ont.	Barbers et al
Northern Shrike	"	11	1	Porter Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	21	1	Depew	Barbers
	"	29	1	Porter Twp.	Chilton
	"	29	1	Chautauqua Twp.	Gagne
Solitary Vireo	"	11L	1	Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	7	1	Wales	O. Rosche
	"	9	3	Niagara Falls, Ont	Chilton
	"	21	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	24	4	Buckhorn SP	D'Anna, Potter
Fox Sparrow	"	1-11	12(max)	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	11	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Swamp Sparrow	"	24	5	Burgeson WS	Gagne
Lapland Longspur	"	3F	26	Charlotte Twp.	Rew
Snow Bunting	"	3	1	Charlotte Twp.	Rew
	"	3	9	Chautauqua Lake	Gagne
	"	4, 6	2, 2	Dunkirk	Chilton
Rusty Blackbird	"	1, 4, 15	1, 6, 1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Pine Grosbeak	"	2F, 3, 11, 16	15, 3, 11, 2	Porter Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	16	2	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	17	20+	Porter Twp.	Byron(BOS-GOS)
	"	18	1	Tifft Farm NP	Bogacki
Purple Finch	"	2-15	1-2	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
White-w. Crossbill	"	11F	2	Tifft Farm NP	Bogacki
	"	24	2	Silver Creek	S. Clarke
	"	29	1	Lake Erie SP	Gagne
Common Redpoll	"	9	1	Forest Lwn, Bflo	Hess
Pine Siskin	"	15-21	1-3	Amity Lake(f)	Pitzrick
	"	25	1	Silver Creek(f)	Neveu

Evening Grosbeak	Nov.	1-10	5-20	Wales	O. Rosche
	"	1-30	9-35	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	2,31	20,98	Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
	"	6,18,22	2,2,22	Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	25	32	SilverCreek(f)	Neveu
	"	27	4	Niagara Falls, Ont	Chilton
	"	28	35	Sherman	Dister

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....	266
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue.....	2
Total for year.....	268

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Times Beach Bird Reports Requested

Dr. Robert Andrie is conducting a survey of bird species found at Times Beach. He has requested the assistance of all interested birders who visit this area. Please advise him of any birds which you observe at Times Beach or flying over the area. The survey will continue through the end of June, 1986. You may contact Dr. Andrie at the Buffalo Museum of Science. (896-5200)

FROM FARTHER AFIELD

RAPTORS ARE RETURNING IN POST-PESTICIDE ERA, CORNELL ORNITHOLOGISTS REPORT

ITHACA, NY - Five of North America's rarest birds of prey are returning from their brush with extinction, according to a 14-year analysis of winter raptor populations by ornithologists at Cornell University.

The bald eagle, prairie falcon, northern goshawk, merlin, and gyrfalcon have made "dramatic" recoveries since the early 1970s, when deadly pesticides were still accumulating in the environment.

The findings are included in a report by Cornell's Laboratory of Ornithology to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Cornell's specialists in population biology compiled data from annual Christmas Bird Count surveys sponsored by the National Audubon Society.

The population of raptors - the hawks and owls on the end of the food chain where toxic chemicals accumulate - is an indication of the environment's general health, said Gregory S. Butcher, director of the cooperative research program at the ornithology laboratory.

Many species of raptors reached an all-time low in the early 1970s, when large amounts of DDT were present in the environment. "The species that people are most excited about is the bald eagle. Their populations have almost doubled in the past decade," Butcher said. A decade ago, only 39 states reported sightings of bald eagles; today, bald eagles are found in all states except Hawaii. The Cornell biologists credit return of the nation's symbol to a healthier environment and repopulation programs.

The Laboratory of Ornithology reported the following estimates of current raptor populations in the continental U.S. and southern Canada and trends since the early 1970s:

- gyrfalcon, an Arctic species that feeds on snowshoe hares and grouse, 500, up 500 percent;
- peregrine falcon, now breeding continent-wide in cities and wilderness areas, 1,200, up 19 percent;
- Harris' hawk, a desert-dwelling bird of the southwestern U.S., 5,600, down 38 percent;
- merlin, a small falcon related to the peregrine and found throughout the U.S. in winter, 8,200, up 43 percent;
- goshawk, a mountain-dwelling bird related to the "chicken hawk", 8,500, up 68 percent;
- prairie falcon, a relative of the peregrine falcon found in the drier, western states, 1,300, up 145 percent;
- bald eagle, which feeds mainly on fish and gunshot-crippled ducks, 37,000, up 92 percent; and
- red-tailed hawk, one of the most common hawks, about 357,000, up 33 percent.

(Cornell University News Service)

UPDATES TO MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Welcome to the following new members:

David Keller
Woodstock Gardens
Batavia, N.Y. 14020
Tel. 344-0055

William Watson
192 Duffy Drive
Tonawanda, N.Y. 14150
Tel. 695-2820

Mrs. Gail Seamans
2602 Main Street
East Pembroke, N.Y. 14056
Tel. 762-9211

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

March 26: 'Between the North Pole and Norway: Birds in Arctic Spitsbergen', by Øivind Tøien and Dr. Herman Rahn. From an expedition to the northern-most society in the world to the study of incubation physiology.

April 9: 'The Art of Avian Name Calling' or 'The Eponymy of it All' Wavel Barber will tell us about some of the common names of birds, the origins and translation of their scientific names and will give a few brief biographies of the people for whom the birds of North America were named. Do you know what very common bird was given a scientific name "who, what kind"? Find out at this meeting.

For further information, contact Dick Christensen, Program Committee Chairman, (632-7762).

FIELD TRIPS

March 23: Sunday. Iroquois-Oak Orchard for ducks and geese. Meet at 8:00 a.m. in front of Citibank, Transitown Plaza (southeast corner of Main and Transit), or meet at 10:15 a.m. at Cayuga Pool overlook. Leader: Bill Burch (773-3690).

March 29: Saturday. Iroquois-Oak Orchard trip by Buffalo Audubon Society. Details same as in preceding entry.

April 13: Sunday. April Bird Count. For a territory call the compiler, Tom Harper (1-547-9563).

April 20: Sunday. Hawks at Grimsby, Ontario. Trip also may include bluebirds, plus shorebirds and ducks at Smithville Lagoon. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge parking lot on the American side of the river. Leader: Walt Klabunde (754-4424 - Lewiston).

April 26: Saturday (For Daylight Saving Time, set clock forward one hour Saturday evening!)

Vol. 51, No. 12 "Field Trips" con't.

April 27: Sunday. Braddock Bay Hawk Watch, joint trip with Genesee Ornithological Society. Although mainly for migrating hawks, this trip is noted for western meadowlark, Brewer's Blackbird and other good finds. Meet at Citibank, Transitown Plaza (Main & Transit) at 7:00 a.m. to join the GOS at the Braddock Bay park shelter at 9:30 a.m. Leaders: Mike Zebehazy (655-4777) and Jean & Bill Dingerson (1-473-9832).

May 10 & 11: Saturday and Sunday. Presque Isle and Pymatuning Weekend, joint trip with Buffalo Audubon Society. Saturday at Presque Isle near Erie, Pa.; Saturday dinner at Linesville, Pa.; Sunday at Pymatuning Reservoir. Call Mary Saville (662-5215) for reservations. Note: Presque Isle, 80 miles from Buffalo is a warbler staging area and can be a hot spot at this time. A one-day trip there is well worth while.

May 11: Sunday. Tifft Farm and Times Beach. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in the Tifft parking lot. This is a half-day outing for warblers and other migrants. Leader: Will D'Anna (1-731-4348).

May 18: Sunday. May Bird Count. For a territory, call the compiler, Bob Brock (876-5862).

Usually these trips take most of a day so a lunch should be brought. For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690); Grand Island, N.Y.

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-a-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Dr. Extension, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, N.Y. 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

Vol. 51, No. 12

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$10:00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people: Pat Cordaro (printing), Barbara Halvorsen (typing), Brad Lown (mailing)

EDITOR: Charles Halvorsen, 9 Yale Pl. Buffalo, N.Y.
14210 (716) 826-9247.

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

TENNESSEE WARBLER

from my crab apple tree
he stitched the air
all afternoon

so loud
no one could nap

only when he'd flown
toward tamarack
and spruce

far north of here

i learned
he could have sewn
bright tapestries

with inca legends
and with aztec lore

absorbed each winter
while we plow our snow

Mary Lamb Freeman

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THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK
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APR 28 1986

THACA, N.Y. 14852

VOLUME 52 JANUARY 1986

NUMBER 1

THE MONTH

December had the dubious distinction of being the month of a new record snowfall for the Buffalo area, 68.4 inches exceeding the previous maximum depth reached in January 1977, the month of the infamous blizzard, by .2 inches. The unseasonably mild weather we enjoyed on December 1st was a prelude to violent gale force winds of 50 to 60 m.p.h. velocity accompanying a deep cold front on the 2nd and causing widespread property damage from flooding along the south shore of Lake Erie and the watersheds emptying into it. The area had barely recovered from this weather disturbance when a second cold front on December 15th crossed the warm (47°F) waters of Lake Erie precipitating cyclonic winds and blinding snow squalls, the first of many such fronts and local blizzards until the lake temperature dropped to the freezing point on the 30th. A similar weather phenomenon last January resulted in the so-called 'Blizzard of '85' in the Buffalo area and once again these lake effect storms were limited to the land masses between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario sparing much of our study area remote from these bodies of water. Vivian Pitzrick, writing from Alfred remarked that light snow fell in Allegany County from December 10th and only eight inches covered the ground by month's end! As noted, snow depth at Greater Buffalo International Airport was measured at a record 68.4 inches, 45.8 inches above the norm. Average temperature for the month was 25.6° (F), 3.2° below average. Total sunshine in the Buffalo area was only 10% of the total possible, another negative record in this "winter of our discontent". (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Needless to say, the heavy snow cover and cold temperatures increased wintering bird populations at feeders throughout the area and many calls were received at the Museum of Science concerning marauding Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks; both species are becoming

a familiar part of the winter landscape on the Niagara Frontier as the feeding of birds in city, suburban and rural yards concentrates them and greatly increases predation opportunities. The snow and high winds also made the Society's annual Christmas Bird Count on December 22nd one of the poorest in recent memory with visibility frequently reduced to only a few feet in the vicinity of Niagara Falls and Grand Island. Remarkably, the hardy participants did tally 74 species, although only one Glaucous Gull and no other uncommon larid was reported. The 'best' bird of the census was probably a wintering Rose-breasted Grosbeak seen at a feeder.

Dunkirk Harbor was the scene of an Eared Grebe observation in December. On the 8th, Dave Gagne saw an adult grebe of this species swimming at the west end of the harbor, its peaked crown, slim neck, pale gray ear patch and slightly upturned bill all clearly visible. It was seen again on the following day by Terry and Judy Mosher. Chautauqua County bird-watchers reported most of the interesting waterfowl observations during the month. A flock of 68 Tundra Swans was seen on Chautauqua Lake until the 8th and Dave Gagne saw a Green-winged Teal on the Frissell Road sinks in the Town of Kiantone in that county on December 22nd. Gagne also saw a flock of 12 Gadwalls, 330 Hooded Mergansers and 95 Ruddy Ducks on Chautauqua Lake on December 8th. Up to four immature male or female King Eiders were seen throughout the month by many observers at the mouth of the Niagara River between Niagara-On-The-Lake and Fort Niagara State Park. At Niagara-On-The-Lake on December 20th, Gordon Bellerby counted 15,000 Oldsquaw Ducks on Lake Ontario, a number reduced to 1000 by the following day.

There were observations of wintering Killdeers in Chautauqua County in December. Three were seen by Dave Gagne at Prendergast Point on Chautauqua Lake on the 8th; he also saw three Killdeers and a Common Snipe on the Frissell Road sinks in the Town of Kiantone on the 22nd. The small flock of Purple Sandpipers, estimated at four birds, continued to be reported in December from the rocky shoreline of the upper river at Niagara Falls. One to two Little Gulls continued to be observed in the lower river between Niagara Falls and Queenston, Ontario all month. The adult Common Black-headed Gull, first seen on the lower Niagara River in November, remained there throughout December. Art Schaffner reported an estimated 30,000 Bonaparte's Gulls on the Niagara River during a field trip of the Lake Erie Bird Club of Chautauqua County on December 14th. The participants also saw an Iceland Gull at Niagara-On-The-Lake and a Lesser Black-backed Gull at Niagara Falls, Ontario on that date. Lesser Black-backed Gulls were also reported from the Sir Adam Beck Generating Station in the gorge of the lower river on December 1st and 7th.

The January 1986 issue of the Allegany County Bird Club News contains a note from Elizabeth Brooks describing her observation of two Common Ravens flying over the State Reforestation Area on the Brown Road in the Town of Ward on December 12th, the location of a similar sighting of one raven in January, 1985. Walter and Harriett

Klabunde reported a wintering Yellow-bellied Sapsucker at their feeder in Lewiston from December 15th to the end of the month. Goat Island at the Niagara Reservation State Park at Niagara Falls, N. Y. was the location of several interesting observations in December. On the 1st, Dick Collins saw a late Ruby-crowned Kinglet and a wintering Yellow-rumped Warbler there; on the 7th, Gordon Bellerby found two Carolina Wrens on the Island. Dave Gagne also reported a late Ruby-crowned Kinglet that he found in a thicket along the Conewango Creek on Fris-sell Road in the Town of Kiantone on December 22nd.

There were many reports of wintering American Robins in December including 89 birds seen by Don Endres at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on the 13th. Another report of Bohemian Waxwings in our study area in December concerned a bird seen by Dick Collins in a flock of Cedar Waxwings in an overgrown field on the Robert Moses Extension Road in the Town of Porter in Niagara County on the 1st. Later that day, while driving on the Robert Moses Expressway, Collins saw two large waxwings feeding in a berry bush on the center median of that road; both birds had the grayish-brown plumage, rufous undertail coverts and white wing markings identifying them as Bohemian Waxwings.

On December 5th, Terry and Judy Mosher saw an adult Chipping Sparrow at a feeder in the yard of their residence on the Harmon Hill Road in the Town of Pomfret. Later in the month, on the 27th, they saw a junco at the feeder which differed from the Dark-eyed Juncos with which it associated by virtue of its buffy orange sides and flanks and light brown mantle contrasting with the gray nape of the head. Mosher concludes that this bird was an example of the oreganus race of the Dark-eyed Junco. The January 1986 issue of the Allegany County Bird Club News also published a record of a Northern Oriole seen at the feeder of Laine Pike in Belmont from December 12th through the 27th.

There was an early winter finch flight although Vivian Pit-zrick remarked that it was a poor year for seeds, wild grapes, acorns or beechnuts to serve as provender. Highlights include a flock of seven White-winged Crossbills seen by Grace O'Dell in the Town of Collins in Erie County on December 26th; on December 20th, Dick Collins reported a flock of 50 Common Redpolls in the Town of Porter in Niagara County and Clarence Klingensmith saw a flock of ten Pine Grosbeaks in the Village of Alfred on December 30th. Three Pine Grosbeaks and six Common Redpolls were seen on the Society's Christmas Bird Count.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

Correction to "The Month" in Vol. 51, No. 12 (Dec. 1985). 1070 Hooded Mergansers were observed by Dave Gagne on Chautauqua Lake on Nov. 29th.

DECEMBER NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
 F - Indicates first record for the migration.
 L - Indicates last record for the migration.
 (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Common Loon	December	1	4	Niagara Falls	Andrle et al
	"	1	6	Niagara Falls	Collins
	"	1	1	Fort Niagara SP	Collins
	"	7	2	Niagara Falls	Andrle (BOS+ACBC)
	"	14	1	Niagara Falls	Schaffner (LEBC)
Pied-billed Grebe	"	20	5	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Sundell
Horned Grebe	"	1	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	1	3	Fort Niagara SP	Collins
* <u>Eared Grebe</u>	"	8	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne
	"	9	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	9	1	Times Beach, Bflo	O'Dell
	"	28	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers
Great Blue Heron	"	5	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	8	1	Iroquois MWR	Collins
Tundra Swan	"	1	13	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
	"	2	2	Amity Lake	V+R Pitzrick
	"	2	36	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	"	6	68	Mayville	Dister
	"	8	64	Mayville	Gagne
Mute Swan	"	25	1	Buffalo	Collins
Green-w. Teal	"	22	1	Kiantone	Gagne, Gardner
Gadwall	"	8	12	Mayville	Gagne
Ring-necked Duck	"	6	5+	Buffalo Harbor	O'Dell
King Eider	"	1	3	Niag.-on-Lake	Andrle et al
	"	1	4	Niag.-on-Lake	Endres, Bellerby
	"	1	1	Fort Niagara SP	Collins
	"	14	1	Niag.-on-Lake	Schaffner, Gagne et al
Oldsquaw	"	20	15,000+	Niag.-on-Lake	Bellerby
Black Scoter	"	7	4	Buffalo	D'Anna et al
	"	14	3	Niag. Falls, Ont.	Schaffner (LEBC)
Surf Scoter	"	7	4	Buffalo	D'Anna et al
White-w. Scoter	"	7	1	Buffalo	D'Anna et al
	"	14	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner (LEBC)
Hooded Merganser	"	1	30	Niag. Falls, Ont.	Andrle, Collins et al
	"	8	330	Mayville	Gagne
	"	14	5	Niag. Falls, Ont.	Schaffner (LEBC)
	"	24	3	Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers

Ruddy Duck	December	8	95 Mayville	Gagne
	"	15	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers
Northern Harrier	"	1	1 Youngstown	Collins
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	13-28	1 Wales (f)	O. Rosche
	"	17, 19, 25	1 Cheektowaga	Schwartz
	"	21	1 Pomfret Twp. (f)	Moshers
	"	26	1 Darien (f)	Harper
Cooper's Hawk	"	5, 11, 13	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	13, 14, 25	1 Darien (f)	Harper
	"	14-29	1 Wales (f)	O. Rosche
	"	15	1 Adam Beck Hydro	Collins
	"	18, 21	1 Aurora Twp.	Zebehazy
	"	19	1 Amherst Twp.	Hess
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	5, 30	1, 1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	31	1 Aurora Twp.	Zebehazy
Killdeer	"	8	3 Prendergast Pt.	Gagne
	"	22	3 Kiantone	Gagne
Purple Sandpiper	"	1	4 Niagara Falls	Bellerby
	"	7	3 Niagara Falls	Andrle (BOS+ACBC)
Common Snipe	"	22	3 Kiantone	Gagne, Gardner
Little Gull	"	8	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Endres
	"	28	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers
	"	29	2 Lewiston	Klabundes
*C. Bl.-headed Gull	"	1	1 Queenston, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	7	1 Queenston, Ont.	Andrle (BOS+ACBC)
Bonaparte's Gull	"	14	30,000 Niagara River	Schaffner (LEBC)
	"	29	12,000 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne
Ring-billed Gull	"	29	12,000 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne
Iceland Gull	"	7	1 Adam Beck Hydro	Bellerby
	"	14	1 Niag.-on-Lake	Schaffner (LEBC)
	"	21	2 Adam Beck Hydro	Chilton
L. Black-b. Gull	"	1, 7	1 Adam Beck Hydro	Andrle et al
	"	14	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner, (LEBC)
Glaucous Gull	"	21 F	1 Niagara Falls	Chilton
	"	25	1 Beaver Island SP	Thill
	"	29	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Sanden
Belted Kingfisher	"	7	1 Queenston, Ont.	Andrle (BOS+ACBC)
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	1	5 Fort Niagara SP	Collins
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	1	1 Lewiston	Klabundes
	"	1	3 Fort Niagara SP	Collins
	"	1-8	1 Darien (f)	Harper
	"	14-27	1 Fredonia (f)	J+W Flory
	"	23	1 Wheatfield Twp.	Potter
	"	31	2 Scio	Pitzrick
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	"	15-30	1 Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
Northern Flicker	"	27	1 Sheldon	O. Rosche
	"	29	1 Porter Twp.	Chilton
Horned Lark				
E. a. alpestris	"	15	6 Marilla Twp.	Andrle, Gregory
E. a. praticola	"	5 reports across the region		
Tufted Titmouse	"	1, 15	3 Fort Niagara SP	Collins

Vol. 52, No. 1 "Noteworthy Records" cont'd.

Tufted Titmouse	December 4-23	1-2	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	" 23	1	Lewiston	Klabundes
Red-br. Nuthatch	" 1	1	Goat Island	Collins
	" 1-31	1-2	Lewiston(f)	Klabundes
	" 1-31	1	Darien (f)	Harper
Brown Creeper	" 1	2	Goat Island	Collins
Carolina Wren	" 7	2	Niagara Falls	Bellerby
Golden-cr. Kinglet	" 1	2	Goat Island	Collins
	" 8	10	Lake Erie SP	Gagne
	" 23,24	1	Boston	O'Dell
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	" 1	1	Goat Island	Collins
	" 22L	1	Kiantone	Gagne, Gardner
American Robin	" T3	89	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	" 29	11	Lewiston Twp.	Klabundes
	(Maximum counts - 6 other reports across region.)			
N. Mockingbird	" 1	3	Youngstown	Collins
	" 10,20	1,1	Porter Twp.	Chilton
	" 29	2	Youngstown	Klabundes
Bohemian Waxwing	" 1	1,2	Porter Twp.	Collins
Northern Shrike	" 1	2	Porter Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
	" 4,13,20	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	" 10	1	Porter Twp.	Chilton
	" 23	1	Armor	O'Dell
Yellow-r. Warbler	" 1	1	Goat Island	Collins
Chipping Sparrow	" 5L	1	Pomfret Twp.	Moshers
Field Sparrow	" T	1	Lewiston Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
	" 14-31	1	Darien (f)	Harper
	" 23	1	Hamburg	O'Dell
Song Sparrow	" 9 reports across the region.			
Swamp Sparrow	" 17	1	Tiffet Farm NP	Andrle, Bogacki
	" 22-28	1	Eden Twp.	Andrle
White-thr. Sparrow	" 14	1	Niag. Falls, Ont.	Schaffner (LEBC)
	" 23	1	Hamburg	O'Dell
White-cr. Sparrow	" 20	3	Oakfield Twp.	Endres
	" 29	2	Youngstown(f)	Klabundes
Lapland Longspur	" 20	11	Oakfield Twp.	Endres
	" 28	1	Wilson Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
Snow Bunting	" 28	80	Wilson Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
	" 29	5	Fort Niagara SP	Chilton
Rusty Blackbird	" 22	1	Burgeson WS	Gagne, Gardner
Common Grackle	" 15-25	1	Hamburg(f)	Walker
	" 24	1	Kenmore	Collins
	" 27	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Brown-h. Cowbird	" 1-31	40-120	Kenmore(f)	Collins
	" 3-14	2-8	Darien (f)	Harper
	" 7,29	50,10	Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
	" 10-31	12-35	Kenmore (f)	Thill
	" 13	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
	" 20	25	Kenmore	Hess
Pine Grosbeak	" 1	8	Porter Twp.	Collins
	" 4	10	Alfred	Klingensmith
	" 21	4	E. Aurora	Zebehazy

Vol. 52, No. 1 "Noteworthy Records" cont'd.

Pine Grosbeak	December	30	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Purple Finch	"	28	2 Cambria Twp.	Potter
White-w. Crossbill	"	12	1 E. Aurora (f)	Andrle, Gregory
	"	26	7 Patchin	O'Dell
Common Redpoll	"	20	50 Porter Twp.	Chilton
	"	21	3 Niag.-on-Lake	Chilton
	"	30	2 Depew	W+M Barber
Pine Siskin	"	4	1 Darien (f)	Harper
	"	15	16 Fluvanna	Dister
	"	15-30	1-4 Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
Am. Goldfinch	"	1-31	25-50 Darien (f)	Harper
	"	1-31	5-17 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	"	16	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
Evening Grosbeak	"	11 reports across the region.		

Species, subspecies, & hybrids previously recorded.....	268
Species, subspecies, & hybrids recorded this issue.....	2
Total for year.....	270

ERRATUM

Prothonotary, Vol. 51, No. 12; page 161

Evening Grosbeak November 31 98 Youngstown D'Anna, Potter

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Report of the Fifty Seventh B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count

December 22, 1985

A poor Christmas count resulted from bad weather. There were 40 participants in the Buffalo circle. Seventy-four species were counted; 19,512 individuals were reported in the 16 territories.

A Rose-breasted Grosbeak was reported in section F, which is a first time ever!

Facts and figures of the 57th Buffalo Circle Christmas Count are reported below.

Date: December 22, 1985

Area: Centering on Grand Island, including both branches of the Niagara River and adjacent territory -- from the Gorge below the Falls to Fort Erie and Buffalo.

Weather: The sky was overcast with fog and moderate snow with low visibility caused by high winds in both the morning and the afternoon. Temperatures ranged from an early morning low of 12°(F) to an afternoon high of 18°(F),

with winds from the SW at 15-25 mph. The Niagara River was partly free of ice. The snow cover was 8 to 12 inches.

Coverage: Forty observers in 17 parties made observations from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Party-hours were 109 (32 on foot and 77 by car), plus 2 hours at feeders and 4 hours owl-ing. Party-miles were 706 (35 on foot and 671 by car).

Territories and Observers: (leaders underlined)

- A. Canada: Rainbow Bridge south to Welland River and Niagara River west to M.C.R.R., Portage Road and area boundary. Robert Andrie, David Cooper, James Gregory. 24 species; 1437 individuals.
- B. Canada: Welland River south to Black Creek and the Niagara River west to the Queen Elizabeth Way and area boundary. Richard Byron, Barbara Tomasi. 19 species; 452 individuals.
- C. Canada: Queen Elizabeth Way west to area boundary and south to Bowen Road. Wavel Barber, Maxine Barber. 17 species; 296 individuals.
- D. Canada: Black Creek south to the Peace Bridge and the Niagara River west to the Queen Elizabeth Way. Frances Rew, Audrey Horbett, Ellen Schopp. 43 species; 2701 individuals.
- E. Canada: Bowen Road south to area boundary and east to Queen Elizabeth Way and Niagara River. Harold Axtell, Blayne Farnan, Drew Campbell, Gary Novosel, Robert Sommerville. 36 species; 2698 individuals.
- F. Niagara Falls: Porter Road, Hyde Park Boulevard, Pine Ave. and Main St. south to Niagara River, including Goat and Cayuga Islands and east to Military Road. Karen Renning, Bill Vaughan, Roberta McDonald. 28 species; 1994 individuals.
- G. North Tonawanda: Military Rd. southeast to N.Y. State Barge Canal and Niagara River northeast to area boundary. Marie Wendling Anne Bauer. 26 species; 500 individuals.
- H. Tonawanda: Sheridan Drive north to N.Y. State Barge Canal and Niagara River east to area boundary. Willie D'Anna, Dick Collins, Betsy Potter. 28 species; 705 individuals.
- J. Buffalo: Sheridan Dr. east and south to area boundary, west to Niagara River. Margaret Wright, Jack Wright. 20 species; 1022 individuals.

Fifty-Seventh B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count, cont.

- K. Grand Island: West of Stony Point Rd., north of Huth and Long Roads to the Niagara River. Walter & Harriette Klabunde, William Broderick, Ann Moranian, Tim O'Day, Charles Dishaw. 38 species; 3083 individuals.
- L. Grand Island: Huth and Long Roads south to Whitehaven Road, and Stony Point Road west to the Niagara River. Bill Burch, Olive Burch. 26 species; 220 individuals.
- M. Grand Island: East of Stony Point Road and north of Whitehaven Rd. to the Niagara River. Mike Zebehazy. 38 Species; 1321 individuals.
- N. Grand Island: Whitehaven Road south to Love Road and Baseline Road west to Niagara River. Robert Brock, William Watson. 27 species; 839 individuals.
- O. Grand Island: Whitehaven Road south to Love Road and Baseline Road east to the Niagara River. Julia Wells. 20 species; 278 individuals.
- P. Grand Island: Love Rd. south to Spaulding Rd. from the East Branch to the West Branch of the Niagara River. Doug Happ. 33 species; 713 individuals.
- Q. Grand Island: South of Spaulding Rd. to the Niagara River. Bill Bogacki, Dick Christensen, Mike McNally. 33 species; 1348 individuals.

Species Recorded: With reference to the species count, letters in parentheses indicate the territories where the birds were found, in those cases where they were reported from three or fewer territories

Pied-billed Grebe	5	(D,Q)
Great Blue Heron	9	
Canada Goose	295	
Wood Duck	2	(J)
Am. Black Duck	88	
Mallard	875	
N. Pintail	5	(F,L)
Gadwall	6	(F,P)
Am. Wigeon	22	(F)
Canvasback	3928	
Redhead	189	
Ring-necked Duck	7	
Greater Scaup	762	
Lesser Scaup	19	(D,E)

Vol. 52, No. 1 "Organizational Activities" cont'd.

Fifty-seventh B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count, cont.

Oldsquaw	4	(E)
Black Scoter	2	(M)
Surf Scoter	2	(D)
White-winged Scoter	3	(K)
Common Goldeneye	1924	
Bufflehead	546	
Hooded Merganser	7	(P,Q)
Common Merganser	1211	
Red-breasted Merganser	28	
Ruddy Duck	1	(D)
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	(M,N)
Cooper's Hawk	1	(D)
Red-tailed Hawk	49	
Rough-legged Hawk	1	(C)
American Kestrel	8	
Ring-necked Pheasant	19	(F,H)
American Coot	1	(D)
Bonaparte's Gull	586	
Ring-billed Gull	1949	
Herring Gull	1019	
Glaucous Gull	1	(A)
Great Black-backed Gull	203	
Rock Dove	478	
Mourning Dove	165	
E. Screech-Owl	2	(L,M)
Great Horned Owl	2	(H,M)
Belted Kingfisher	4	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	(F)
Downy Woodpecker	47	
Hairy Woodpecker	2	(G,M)
Northern Flicker	17	
Blue Jay	189	
American Crow	91	
Black-capped Chickadee	167	
Tufted Titmouse	3	(A,G)
Red-breasted Nuthatch	12	
White-breasted Nuthatch	27	
Brown Creeper	5	
Golden-crowned Kinglet	37	
Hermit Thrush	1	(E)
American Robin	31	
Cedar Waxwing	129	(E,K,L)
Northern Shrike	1	(K)
European Starling	1761	
Northern Cardinal	194	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1	(F) First time ever!

Fifty-seventh B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count, cont.

American Tree Sparrow	411	
Song Sparrow	16	
Swamp Sparrow	3	(K,Q)
White-throated Sparrow	132	
Dark-eyed Junco (Slate col.)	232	
Red-winged Blackbird	2	(J,P)
Brown-headed Cowbird	14	
Pine Grosbeak	3	(A)
Purple Finch	2	(A)
House Finch	315	
Common Redpoll	6	(N)
American Goldfinch	153	
Evening Grosbeak	8	(D,G,K)
House Sparrow	1069	

The compiler thanks all who contributed to this count in extremely poor weather conditions.

Bill Bogacki, 70 Louise Dr., Cheektowaga, N.Y. 14227

FROM FARTHER AFIELD

Report of the Port Colborne Christmas Bird Count - 1985

PORT COLBORNE, ONT. 42 54 N, 79 15 W, center Humberstone Bridge on Hwy 3, Port Colborne; e. to Pleasant Beach and Holloway Bay Rd., s. to Lake Erie, w. to Grabbell Point, Wainfleet and Chamber's Corners, n. to Wellandport Airport, Niagara College and Cooks Mill; elevation 575 to 650 ft.; habitat coverage: open lake, canal and rivers 40%, agricultural land 41%, woodland 10%, urban 7%, marsh 2%, - December 29, 1985; 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Overcast, intermittent snow. Temp. 15- to 25F. Wind WSW, 20-40 mph. Snow cover 4 to 10 in. Water frozen, open on Lake Erie. Wild food crop fair. Nine observers in 5 parties. Total party hours, 39 (19 on foot, 20 by car); total party miles 355 (20 on foot, 335 by car).

Great Blue Heron	1	Sharp-sh. Hawk	1
Canada Goose	22	Cooper's Hawk	1
Wood Duck	1	Red-tailed Hawk	50
Mallard	25	Rough-legged Hawk	4
Am. Black Duck	3	Am. Kestrel	21
Redhead	1	Ring-necked Pheasant	1
Greater Scaup	65	Bonaparte's Gull	38
Com. Goldeneye	43	Ring-billed Gull	291
Bufflehead	24	Herring Gull	94
Common Merganser	295	Gr. Black-b. Gull	14
Red-br. Merganser	25	Rock Dove	122
N. Harrier	4	Mourning Dove	170

Port Colborne Christmas Bird Count, cont.

E. Screech Owl	1	Cedar Waxwing	3
Great Horned Owl	3	N. Shrike	1
Long-eared Owl	1	European Starling	534
Short-eared Owl	2	N. Cardinal	90
Belted Kingfisher	2	Am. Tree Sparrow	450
Downy Woodpecker	22	Vesper Sparrow	1
Hairy Woodpecker	4	Song Sparrow	9
N. Flicker	1	White-throated Sparrow	4
Horned Lark	38	Dark-eyed Junco	268
Blue Jay	64	Lapland Longspur	1
Am. Crow	19	Snow Bunting	60
Black-Cap. Chickadee	156	Red-winged Blackbird	11
Red-br. Nuthatch	3	Rusty Blackbird	17
White-br. Nuthatch	18	Com. Grackle	1
Brown Creeper	2	Brown-headed Cowbird	22
Golden-cr. Kinglet	9	Purple Finch	1
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	1	House Finch	121
Am. Robin	10	Am. Goldfinch	30
N. Mockingbird	1	House Sparrow	1009

Total: 62 Species; 4306 individuals. Drew Campbell, Brad Clements, Blayne Farnan, Bob Farnan, Mary-Ellen Foley, Richard Knaption (compiler), Gary Novosel, Cathy Sanderson, Cindy Smith

Richard Knaption, R. R. 1, Wainfleet, Ont. L0S 1V0

Notes from the Newsletters of Other Birding Organizations

According to the Hamilton, Ont. Wood Duck, Jan. 1986, the storm of Dec. 2nd washed away the Long Point Bird Observatory buildings at the tip of the point. The replacement cost is \$30,000. Because some BOS members are FON members also, they might want to help by sending checks to the LPBO-Box 160, Port Rowan, Ont. N0E 1M0. The Hamilton fall count found a Ruddy Turnstone for only the second time, and record high numbers of Double-crested Cormorants, House Finches and Red-necked Grebes. An American Oystercatcher, the first recorded there, arrived the day before the count began. Many notable sightings occurred at Dundas Marsh, a reminder of our BOS field trip there.

The Ontario Bird Banding Association has been conducting a study of winter movement of Snow Buntings. It consists of banding and color marking birds with pink, blue, yellow or green dye. Note the date, location and color of any buntings so marked and notify the Bird Banding Office, Canada Wildlife Service, Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0E7. Large sightings of snow buntings are also welcomed.

L. A. Smith of Brantford, Ont. maintains over 100 blue bird nest boxes on both sides of Airport Rd. To avert cold weather kills in May, he planned to put an insulated box into production last fall.

Vol. 52, No. 1 "From Farther Afield" cont'd.

Notes from Newsletters, cont.

Other problems include hunters who destroy boxes worth \$16 each, and raccoons which he deters through the use of galvanized steel sheathing on the posts. Smith hopes for 110 good nestings with an average of four young birds to each nest.

The Cattaraugus County Bird Study Club turned up 9 Ruffed Grouse and 9 Turkeys among the 41 species found on their Christmas count, while in Nov., the Allegany County Bird Club counted 18 Ruffed Grouse and 50 Turkeys. Encouraging numbers. An Eared Grebe was reported in Dec. in the Dunkirk Harbor. Only an occasional visitor, none has been seen for several years.

According to a report in the Belted Kingfisher of Delaware-Otsego Audubon, the Christmas count showed 82 House Finches and a record low of 370 House Sparrows, suggesting a correlation. White-wing Crossbills appeared for the second time in 17 years. Notable to us were the 66 Pine Grosbeaks and 187 Evening Grosbeaks. This group also has an eagle count sponsored by the National Wildlife Federation in early Jan. Their area clubs survey suitable sites along the Delaware and Susquehanna Rivers, Otsego Lake, and the Rio Reservoir where last year they saw and photographed 15 Bald Eagles and 1 Golden Eagle.

Marian Dornhaffer

UPDATES TO MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Welcome to the following new Associate Member:

Sharon Sisti
195 St. James Place
Buffalo, New York 14222
Tel. H - 885-5288
B - 842-2750

Please note the following address changes:

Marc Chelemer
21 Saint Mary Road
Cambridge, Mass. 02139-1225

David B. Freeland
148 Sun Valley Way
Morris Plains, N.J. 07950

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

April 23: A stimulating discussion regarding the influence of weather on bird migrations will be given by a professional meteorologist in a talk entitled "Wind and Weather Factors" by Paul Lazarus.

May 14: Can your birding skills be improved by keeping lists? If you are a serious birder, you will want to hear "Lists and Listing" by Rev. Raymond Prybis. He will introduce us to the seven different kinds of lists and their purposes. Slides of Hawks and Egrets will follow talk.

For further information, contact Dick Christensen, Program Committee Chairman (632-7762).

FIELD TRIPS

April 20: Sunday. Hawks at Grimsby, Ontario. Trip also may include bluebirds, plus shorebirds and ducks at Smithville Lagoon. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge Parking lot on the American side of the river. Leader: Bill Burch (773-3690).

April 26: Saturday (For Daylight Saving Time, set clock forward one hour Saturday evening!)

April 27: Sunday. Braddock Bay Hawk Watch, joint trip with Genesee Ornithological Society. Although mainly for migrating hawks, this trip is noted for western meadowlark, Brewer's Blackbird and other good finds. Meet at Citibank, Transitown Plaza (Main & Transit) at 7:00 a.m. to join the GOS at the Braddock Bay park shelter at 9:30 a.m. Leaders: Mike Zebehazy (655-4777) and Jean & Bill Dingerson (1-473-9832).

May 10 & 11: Saturday and Sunday. Presque Isle and Pymatuning Weekend, joint trip with Buffalo Audubon Society. Saturday at Presque Isle near Erie, Pa.; Saturday dinner at Linesville, Pa.; Sunday at Pymatuning Reservoir. Call Mary Saville (662-5215) for reservations. Note: Presque Isle, 80 miles from Buffalo is a warbler staging area and can be a hot spot at this time. A one-day trip there is well worth while.

May 11: Sunday. Tifft Farm and Times Beach. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in the Tifft parking lot. This is a half-day outing for warblers and other migrants. Leader: Will D'Anna (1-731-4348).

May 18: Sunday. May Bird Count. For a territory, call the compiler, Bob Brock (876-5862).

May 25: Sunday. Canadian shore of Lake Erie for shorebirds. Leaders: Bruce Chilton (833-9242) and Art Schaffner (835-7589). We will meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Vermont and Busti entrance to the Peace Bridge, or 7:15 a.m. at the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge on the Canadian Side.

May 30, 31 & June 1: Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Allegany Nature Pilgrimage. For registration for cabin and trips, call Tom Harper (1-547-9563) or Bill Townsend (691-7775). Required before May 1. The park also is good at this time for a one-day trip. The maintenance road running east from Red House Lake and Bova ski area are very good spots.

June 22: Sunday. Rushing Stream Sanctuary in morning and Fran Rew's retreat for picnic. Bring lunch and meet at Leisureland parking lot at 8:00 a.m. Leisureland motel complex is on Camp Road, just off Exit 57 from I-90 at the Hamburg exit. Rushing Stream's location (9 miles south of Forestville) is shown on the map inside the cover of each "Audubon Outlook". We will meet Fran Rew there at 9:00 a.m.

June XX A Kirtland's Warbler trip to Michigan, best made in June, is under consideration. Coordinate your ideas with Bill Burch. (773-3690)

Usually these trips take most of a day so a lunch should be brought. For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690); Grand Island, N.Y.

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-a-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Dr. Extension, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

Vol. 52, No. 1

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, N.Y. 14120


BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$10:00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people: Pat Cordaro (printing), Barbara Halvorsen (typing), Brad Lown (mailing), Marie Wendling (index)

EDITOR: Charles Halvorsen,
9 Yale Place
Buffalo, N.Y. 14210
(716) 826-9247

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

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MAY 27 1986

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 52

FEBRUARY 1986

NUMBER 2

THE MONTH

After the meteorological excesses of December, January's seasonal temperatures provided a respite to winter-weary residents of the Niagara Frontier. Indeed, following a three day period of severe cold weather between January 13th and 15th, temperatures climbed to a balmy 46° (F) on the 17th and to a high for the month of 51° (F) on the 19th precipitating a thaw which melted most of the accumulated snow cover and caused local flooding along the creeks near the south shore of Lake Erie. Although temperatures became more seasonal by January 21st, snowfall was minimal, the only significant accumulation at Buffalo being 2.4 inches during squalls on the 27th. Precipitation for the period measured 2.31 inches, .71 inches below normal; snowfall totaled 17.3 inches, 6.9 inches below normal. Average temperature for the month was 25.5° (F), 2.0° above the norm. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

The traditional day afield on January 1st to inaugurate the New Year was rewarding for those bird-watchers who participated. The year began most auspiciously for Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter who were scanning Ring-billed and Herring Gulls on the Niagara River from the magnificent vista afforded by the parking lot on the Bird Island pier at Buffalo when they noticed a dark brown larid "strikingly different" from the gulls it was flying among. The bird had more pointed wings and prominent central retrices extending $\frac{1}{2}$ inch behind the tail but in all other aspects, including flight pattern, it resembled the gulls. D'Anna determined that he was looking at a Pomarine or Parasitic Jaeger which, judging from the barring on the underparts and other field marks, was probably an immature bird. He notified Bob Andrle of his find and the following morning Andrle and several other B.O.S. members assembled on the pier where they had excellent

looks at the jaeger both resting and in flight. He concluded that this bird was an immature dark phase Pomarine Jaeger as it was too large and stocky of body with a stouter bill and heavier barring on the body than a Parasitic Jaeger. The Pomarine Jaeger is far the rarer of these two infrequent fall and winter visitors and unfortunately it could not be located again after January 2nd. Other groups of bird-watchers touring the Canadian side of the Niagara River on January 1st saw some 61 species to start their year's lists, including a second year Thayer's Gull, an adult Lesser Black-backed Gull and two Iceland and Glaucous Gulls at the overlook of the Adam Beck Generating Station and one adult Little Gull and the adult Common Black-headed Gull in the gorge near the Queenston sand dock. At Niagara-on-the-Lake, a record seven King Eiders were counted near the mouth of the Niagara River. Further afield on January 1st, Canadian observers reported a Northern Saw-whet Owl, a Pine Warbler and a few Yellow-rumped Warblers in a Red Pine plantation on the Beaver Dams Road in the Town of Thorold, Ontario. Earlier, on December 22nd, considerable excitement was generated in the Niagara Peninsula by the discovery of a Black-backed Woodpecker in this woodlot where it was subsequently seen by a number of bird-watchers in the next few days. Unfortunately, local observers who went to that location in January were unable to find the bird although there was ample evidence of its bark stripping activity on dead trees in the woodlot.

Other reports meriting mention in these pages include the sighting of many interesting water birds in Dunkirk Harbor in January including four to six Pied-billed Grebes and a Black-crowned Night Heron. Frances Rew saw an adult Mute Swan in the harbor on four occasions between January 18th and 31st and a wintering Tundra Swan on the 24th and again during a joint BOS-Lake Erie Bird Club trip there on the 26th. Also seen in the harbor during this field trip was a flock of 80 Redhead Ducks. Terry and Judy Mosher saw an adult male Surf Scoter there on January 11th. Seven Northern Pintails, scarce winter visitors in these climes, were seen at the Niagara Reservation State Park on Goat Island, Niagara Falls on January 2nd. There were two records of wintering Wood Ducks in our area in January; Grace O'Dell saw a female in Springville on the 9th and Frances Rew reported a male bird in Dunkirk Harbor on the 30th. Bob Sommerville of Fort Erie reported a wintering flock of 450 Canada Geese on the Niagara River there. A flock of 100 Canada Geese was seen flying over the Town of Boston in southern Erie County and 104 geese were counted in Dunkirk Harbor on the 5th, all presumed to be part of the considerable numbers of birds of this species now wintering in New York State.

One sub-adult and two immature Bald Eagles continue to be reported from the gorge of the lower Niagara River between Lewiston and Fort Niagara State Park. Observers in January remarked that the sub-adult bird was beginning to 'show white' on the head and had a prominent green band on the right underwing coverts. There were an unusually large number of reports of wintering Rough-legged Hawks in the region in January including three dark phase birds. Mike Zebehazy

saw a wintering Red-shouldered Hawk in the Town of Hamburg on January 4th. There were several reports of both immature and adult Northern Goshawks at feeders south and east of Buffalo.

There were more reports of Common Snipe wintering in Chautauqua County in January. On the 8th, Dave Gagne and Frank Gardner saw a snipe feeding in a ditch on N.Y. Route #380 near the hamlet of Towerville. On the 17th, Gagne saw three Common Snipe in a ditch bordering Frissell Road in the Town of Kiantone.

The turbulent waters of the Niagara River between the Adam Beck Generating Station and the Robert Moses Power complex were the scene of most of the white-wing gull observations in January - one to two Glaucous Gulls and one to three Iceland Gulls among the myriad Ring-bills, Herring Gulls and a wintering Bonaparte's Gull population estimated at 3000 birds. The second winter Thayer's Gull present early in the month at this location was distinguished from the Herring Gulls by the lack of black markings on the upper wing tips and the grayish primary feathers. On the 12th, Art Schaffner and Dave Gagne saw a puzzling gull from the overlook at the Adam Beck complex which they concluded was probably an Iceland x Herring Gull first year hybrid. This summary of gull observations must not conclude without mention of both Iceland and Glaucous Gulls seen in the upper Niagara River between Grand Island and the north Buffalo Harbor during January.

The only formal report of a Snowy Owl to date, this season, was that of a large female bird seen by Willie D'Anna on Tuscorora Road near the Niagara Falls Airport in Niagara County on January 5th. The immature Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, first reported from the feeder at the residence of Walter and Harriett Klabunde in Lewiston in December, remained at that location during January. One to two Carolina Wrens were seen in the shrubbery near the Maid of the Mist boat drydock in the Niagara River gorge at Niagara Falls, Ontario all month. A wintering Hermit Thrush was seen by Dave Gagne at Lake Erie State Park in the Town of Pomfret in Chautauqua County on January 15th. A sizeable wintering population of Yellow-rumped Warblers estimated at up to 24 birds was seen by several observers on West Forest Road in the Town of Portland in Chautauqua County all month. Dick Collins advised that a sizeable flock of wintering Brownheaded Cowbirds continued to visit his feeder on Grimsby Road in the Town of Tonawanda in January - between 40 and 120 birds each day. Finally, it continued to be an excellent winter for finch observations with records of both Common Redpolls and Pine Grosbeaks as well as the more common Evening Grosbeaks. Evening Grosbeaks were reported in unusually large numbers from both Genesee and Orleans counties and Jeanine Flory of Fredonia reported one unusual color variation in a grosbeak visiting her feeder on Berry Road, a bird with light yellow plumage contrasting with white wings and tail feathers with only a thin black stripe along the outer primary feather.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

JANUARY 1986 NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
 F - Indicates first record for the migration.
 L - Indicates last record for the migration.
 (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Pied-billed Grebe	January	4	1 LaSalle Pk, Bf.	D'Anna et al
"	"	4, 6	9, 11 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher et al
"	"	8, 15	7 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Mosher
"	"	26	11 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew (BOS&LEBC)
Horned Grebe	"	15	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Gagne et al
Great Blue Heron	"	3	1 LaSalle Pk, Bf.	Collins
"	"	3	1 Buffalo Harbor	Zebehazy
"	"	7	1 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	"	11	1 Lewiston	Bellerby
"	"	14	1 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
B.-cr. Night-Heron	"	8	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Gardner
"	"	27	1 Grand Island	W&O Burch
Tundra Swan	"	18	1 Portland Twp.	Mosher et al
"	"	24	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
"	"	26	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew (BOS&LEBC)
<u>Mute Swan</u>	"	3, 4	1 LaSalle Pk, Bf.	Collins et al
"	"	18-31	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew et al
Canada Goose	"	26	450 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
"	"	26	60 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew (BOS&LEBC)
Wood Duck	"	9, 23	1 Springville	O'Dell
"	"	31	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Amer. Black Duck	"	26	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew (BOS&LEBC)
Northern Pintail	"	2	7 Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	6	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
Gadwall	"	8, 15	5 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Gardner
"	"	12	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Collins
"	"	26	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew (BOS&LEBC)
American Wigeon	"	8	3 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Gardner
"	"	12	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
"	"	26	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew (BOS&LEBC)
Ring-necked Duck	"	6-26	1-2 Dunkirk Harbor	Many observers
Lesser Scaup	"	12	18 Fort Erie, Ont.	Gagne, Schaffner
Surf Scoter	"	11	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
White-w. Scoter	"	12	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Collins
"	"	15	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Gagne et al
"	"	18	55 Niag-on-Lake	Zebehazy, Happ
"	"	18, 22	132, 500 Niag-on-Lake	Bellerby
"	"	31	2 Buffalo	O'Dell

Vol. 52, No. 2 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Hooded Merganser	January	1	4	Scio	Pitzrick
"	"	8,15	4	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne
"	"	9,23	1	Springville	O'Dell
"	"	12	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Collins
"	"	26	3	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew(BOS&LEBC)
Bald Eagle	"	2	1(imm.)	Niag-on-Lake	Bellerby
"	"	12	1	Lewiston	D'Anna, Potter
(Immature with green wing tag.)					
"	"	21	2(imm.)	Niag-on-Lake	Bellerby
Northern Harrier	"	4	1	Buffalo	D'Anna et al
"	"	17	1	Lewiston Twp.	W&H Klabunde
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	1	1	Youngstown	Collins, Cooper
"	"	1,5	1	Pomfret Twp.	J. Flory
"	"	1-14	1	Wales	O. Rosche
"	"	2	2	Beaver Meadow WS	Zebehazy
"	"	4	2	Hamburg	Zebehazy, Happ
"	"	7	1	Pomfret Twp. (f)	Moshers
"	"	10	1	Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
"	"	26	1	Pomfret Twp.	Rew(BOS&LEBC)
Cooper's Hawk	"	1	1	Oak Orchard WMA	Harper
"	"	4	1	Hamburg	Rew
"	"	12	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
"	"	15	1	Wales	O. Rosche
"	"	17	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	26	1	Evans Twp.	Rew(BOS&LEBC)
Northern Goshawk	"	7	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	1	1	Porter Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	1,2,17	1,1,1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	2	1	Aurora Twp.	Zebehazy
"	"	11	2	Orchard Park	O'Dell
"	"	12	1	Porter Twp.	Gagne, Collins et al
"	"	17	2	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
American Coot	"	12	5	Dunkirk Harbor	Collins
"	"	26	30	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew(BOS&LEBC)
Common Snipe	"	8	1	Towerville	Gagne, Gardner
"	"	17	3	Kiantone	Gagne
Pomarine Jaeger	"	1	1	Bird Is., Bflo	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	2	1	Bird Is., Bflo	Schaffner, Andrle et al
Little Gull	"	6-26	1-2	Dunkirk Harbor	Many Observers
"	"	9-18	1-2	Queenston, Ont.	Many Observers
C. Bl.-headed Gull	"	8	1	Queenston, Ont.	Schaffner, Chilton
Iceland Gull	"	1	1	Adam Beck Hydro	Collins, Cooper
"	"	3	1	Buffalo	Rew
"	"	3	1	Buffalo	Zebehazy
"	"	5,25	1,1	R. Moses Gen. St.	Bellerby
"	"	12	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Collins
"	"	12	3	Adam Beck Hydro	Gagne, Schaffner

Vol. 52, No. 2 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Glaucous Gull	January	1	1 Adam Beck Hydro	Collins, Cooper
"	"	2, 9, 25	1, 1, 2 R. Moses Gen. St.	Bellerby
"	"	3	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Rew
"	"	12	2 Adam Beck Hydro	Collins
Snowy Owl	"	5F	1 Wheatfield Twp.	D'Anna
Short-eared Owl	"	1F	3 Wilson Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	4	1 Porter Twp.	D'Anna et al
Belted Kingfisher	"	2	1 Niag-on-Lake	Bellerby
"	"	16	2 Scio	Pitzrick
"	"	18	1 Forest Lwn., Bflo	Hess
"	"	26	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew (BOS&LEBC)
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	1	1 Fort Niagara SP	Collins, Cooper
"	"	1	1 Scio	Pitzrick
"	"	19	3 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	30	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	1	1 Fort Niagara SP	Collins, Cooper
"	"	5, 12	1 Pomfret Twp.	J. Flory
"	"	14-31	1 Darien (f)	Harper
"	"	16, 18, 30	1 Lewiston (f)	W&H Klabunde
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	"	5-31	1 Lewiston (f)	W&H Klabunde
Northern Flicker	"	2	1 E. Aurora	Zebehazy
"	"	4	2 Hamburg	Rew
"	"	11	1 Grand Island	Hess
"	"	29	1 Pomfret Twp.	J. Flory
"	"	30	2 Buffalo	O'Dell
Horned Lark	"	"	"	"
<u>E.a. alpestris</u>	"	8, 15	100, 55 Pomfret Twp.	Gagne, Gardner
<u>E.a. praticola</u>	"	26	10 Pomfret Twp.	Moshers
Tufted Titmouse	"	1	3 Fort Niagara SP	Collins, Cooper
"	"	3-30	1-2 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	7, 15, 18	1 Silver Creek (f)	Neveu
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	1-15	1 Darien (f)	Harper
"	"	4	1 Boston	Zebehazy, Happ
"	"	4, 15	1, 1 Silver Creek (f)	S. Clarke
"	"	27, 29	1 Silver Creek (f)	Neveu
Brown Creeper	"	1	2 Porter Twp.	Collins, Cooper
"	"	4	1 Eden	Zebehazy, Hapo
Carolina Wren	"	1, 4	2 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Collins et al
"	"	12	1 Niag. Falls, Ont.	Gagne, Schaffner
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	1	2 Porter Twp.	Collins, Cooper
Hermit Thrush	"	15	1 Lake Erie SP	Gagne
American Robin	"	12	125 Porter Twp.	Gagne, Collins
(Maximum count-9 other reports across the region.) et al				
N. Mockingbird	"	1	2 Porter Twp.	Collins, Cooper
"	"	14	1 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
Northern Shrike	"	1	1 Oak Orchard WMA	Harper
"	"	12	1 Willoughby Twp, Ont.	Zebehazy
"	"	16	2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	17	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	25	1 Villanova Twp.	Mosher, Trudnowski

Vol. 52, No. 2 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Yellow-r. Warbler	January	6	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	15	24 Portland Twp.	Gagne
"	"	18	2 Portland Twp.	Mosher et al
"	"	26	15 Portland Twp.	Rew (BOS&LEBC)
Field Sparrow	"	1-12	1 Darien(f)	Harper
Song Sparrow	"	7 reports	across the region.	
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	"	7 reports	across the region.	
Lapland Longspur	"	1	3 Oakfield Twp.	Endres
"	"	1	1 Alabama Twp.	Harper
"	"	1	4 Elma	Zebehazy
"	"	4	2 Boston Twp.	O'Dell
"	"	9	1 E. Aurora	Rew
Snow Bunting	"	1	25 Alabama Twp.	Harper
"	"	1	1 Elma	Zebehazy
"	"	4	30 Boston Twp.	O'Dell
"	"	8, 15	90 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher, Gagne
"	"	15	250 Shelby Twp.	Endres
Red-w. Blackbird	"	1	1 Scio	Pitzrick
"	"	1	1 Darien(f)	Harper
"	"	4	10 Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
"	"	11, 12	1 Silver Creek(f)	Neveu
Common Grackle	"	18	1 Portland Twp.	Mosher et al
Brown-h. Cowbird	"	1-31	40-120 Tonawanda Twp.	Collins
"	"	2	1 Silver Creek(f)	S. Clarke
"	"	4-14	2-15 Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
"	"	10, 14	1 Silver Creek(f)	Neveu
Pine Grosbeak	"	1	5 Porter Twp.	Collins, Cooper
"	"	1	7 Queenston, Ont.	W&H Klabunde
"	"	1	1 Niag. Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
Purple Finch	"	4	2 Queenston, Ont.	D'Anna et al
"	"	15	2 Lake Erie SP	Gagne
"	"	18	2 Lake Erie SP	Mosher et al
White-w. Crossbill	"	4	5 N. Boston	O'Dell
Common Redpoll	"	4	35 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	8	1 Silver Creek(f)	S. Clarke
"	"	8, 15	60, 159 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher, Gagne et al
"	"	10	1 Wales(f)	A. Rosche
"	"	26	5 Pomfret Twp.	Rew (BOS&LEBC)
Pine Siskin	"	1	1 Youngstown(f)	Collins, Cooper
"	"	12	7 Youngstown(f)	D'Anna, Potter
American Goldfinch	"	1-31	5-35 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	1-31	55max. Lewiston(f)	W&H Klabunde
"	"	11	4 Alfred(f)	Klingensmith
"	"	20	50+ Fluvanna	Dister
Evening Grosbeak	"	13 reports	across the region.	

Other species seen
in January:

Mallard, Canvasback, Redhead, Greater Scaup,
Oldsquaw, Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Common
Merganser, Red-br. Merganser, Red-tailed Hawk,
American Kestrel, Ring-n. Pheasant, Bonaparte's
Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Herring Gull, Gr. Black-
backed Gull, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, E. Screech
Owl, Great Horned Owl, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy
Woodpecker, Blue Jay, American Crow, Black-c.
Chickadee, White-br. Nuthatch, Cedar Waxwing,
European Starling, Northern Cardinal, Amer.
Tree Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, House Finch,
House Sparrow

Total species, subspecies & hybrids.....97

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Report of the January Waterfowl Count

The January 1986 Waterfowl Count was scheduled for January 11 through 19 with January 12 as the target date. Below is a list of the waterfowl reported and a comparison of the numbers with those of the last thirty years.

Pied-billed Grebe	12	highest ever
Canada Goose	478	4th highest
Black Duck	339	3rd lowest
Mallard	7438	all-time high
Pintail	1	average
Gadwall	2	low
American Wigeon	4	low
Canvasback	1710	below average
Redhead	91	average
Ring-necked Duck	2	average
Greater Scaup	1850	average
Lesser Scaup	46	average
Oldsquaw	1739	average
Surf Scoter	1	5 times in 30 years
White-winged Scoter	384	highest in 30 years
Goldeneye	1557	lowest in 30 years
Bufflehead	103	5th lowest
Hooded Merganser	8	high
Common Merganser	4996	10th highest
Red-br. Merganser	14	2nd lowest
Coot	37	3rd highest
Total	20,811	average

January Waterfowl Count - cont.

During the count period temperatures varied from 2° through 40°, much of the time below freezing. Most of the inland lakes, ponds and swamps were frozen, as was the shore of Lake Erie except for Dunkirk Harbor. Swift-flowing streams, like Ellicott Creek, were open as were the many small spring-fed streams in Amherst and Clarence.

Of the waterfowl that usually appear on this count, several were not recorded: Horned Grebe, Common Loon, Eider, Wood Duck, Black Scoter, Green-winged Teal. The Iroquois Wildlife Refuge and the Tonawanda Game Management Area were completely frozen over, but Odmund Olsen reported having seen 720 Canada Geese flying over the week before and a Great Blue Heron in the partially-open Feeder Ditch. Some other observers reported interesting sightings in addition to the waterfowl. At Artpark, Willie D'Anna saw an immature Bald Eagle with a green tag on the right wing. Another Great Blue Heron was seen by Gail Seamans in M Territory, and Steve Eaton reported 3 Wild Turkeys and 7 Ruffed Grouse.

The following are the areas covered and the compilers for each:

- A - Lake Ontario - Pt. Breeze to Olcott - Wavel Barber
- B - Lake Ontario - Walter Klabunde
- C - Ft. Niagara to the Gorge at the Falls - Walter Klabunde
- D - Niagara-on-the-Lake to the Gorge at the Falls - Mike Zebehazy
- E - Buffalo North Harbor to Goat Island - Joe Thill
- F - Ft. Erie to Canadian Falls - Harold Axtell
- G - Grand Island - Karen Renning
- H - Lake Erie - Buffalo South Harbor to Silver Creek - Ken Cohen
- I - Lake Erie - Silver Creek to Penna. Line - Fran Rew
- J - Jamestown and Chautauqua Lake - Bob Sundell
- K - Olean and Salamanca - Steve Eaton
- L - Allegany County Area - Lou Burton
- M - Batavia - Gail Seamans
- N - Oak Orchard and Tonawanda GMA - Don Endres
- O - Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge - Odmund Olsen
- P - Amherst and Clarence - Marie Wendling
- Q - Delaware Park, Forest Lawn, Zoo - Ellen Schopp
- Q - Buffalo South Parks - Charles Halvorsen

The result of this survey will be published as part of the state-wide count in The Kingbird.

Marie Wendling
Compiler

Report of Field Trip Along Lower Niagara River

In spite of icy roads and gray skies, a small group of BOS members had varying degrees of success on a field trip Sunday, Feb. 2. At Old Fort Niagara, white-winged scoters, mergansers, oldsquaw, buffleheads, mallards and scaup hid themselves in the gusty waves. Later, as the cars pulled into the Oakwood Cemetery, a flock of robins left and a search of the woods brought a glimpse of a great horned owl and some cedar waxwings. Crows were mobbing a red-tailed hawk as part of the group continued on to Bill Vaughan's house at Niagara-on-the-Lake. While we ate our lunch behind a big picture window, we watched the feeders where juncos, pine siskins, gold finches, house finches, a song and a tree sparrow, a rusty blackbird, and cardinals took turns at the repast. Down at the dock, the air was filled with calls of oldsquaws among about 200 white-winged scoters. Although the afternoon was growing sharply colder, the remnants of the group continued on to be rewarded with the sight of at least 4 king eiders across from Ft. Niagara, in company with a black scoter and a black-backed gull. Some members went on to the Adam Beck Hydro Station and found a 2nd year glaucous gull. A stop at the Horticultural Gardens produced a red-breasted nuthatch and the usual feeder birds.

There weren't many species of gulls to be seen, but the closeness of the oldsquaws and scoters particularly, in good light, was a magnificent sight.

Marian Dornhaffer

FROM FARTHER AFIELD

Notes from other Birding Publications

Audubon Naturalist News of February for the Central Atlantic States. A series of three pictures taken by John McKinley, ANS member, shows a Great Blue Heron eating a muskrat. In the first picture, the heron lifted the muskrat from the water and tried to swallow it. Then he put it back in the water for about 45 seconds until it was drowned. Next he positioned the dead mammal and proceeded to swallow it head first. The third picture shows the bulge in the heron's long neck. The shots were taken at the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge in August, 1985. While there have been other such observations, it is still unusual conduct.

Little Gull, Rochester Birding Association for Jan. 1986. A Virginia rail, a red phalarope, an orange-crowned warbler and a yellow-headed blackbird were among the noteworthy records for Dec.

Notes from other Birding Publications, cont.

Two bald eagles and two wintering merlins were reported, although snowy owls were absent and short eared owls scarce, an observation shared by BOS. Large numbers of pine grosbeaks and of Bohemian waxwings were noted.

The Christmas bird count listed for the entire area four goshawks, a parasitic jaeger, 60 screech owls, 74 great horned owls, 95 red-bellied woodpeckers, a boreal chickadee, two hermit thrushes and many horned larks and snow buntings. For over a month, a peregrine was observed feeding on sparrows and starlings that customarily nested in an open storage shed on Zerox property. An active healthy bird, it apparently was unbanded.

The Jamestown Audubon News Letter, Feb.-March 1986. Christmas reports covered Warren, Pa. and Jamestown. Three bald eagles were sighted, three snipe, and 18 pileated woodpeckers. A barred owl and a common raven had been found in November.

American Birds Winter of 1985. An article by D. E. Blockstein and H. B. Tordoff presents a fresh look at the extinction of the passenger pigeon. From the "indescribable multitudes" noted by Wilson in 1832 as a flock estimated at 2,230,270,000 birds, this most abundant land bird on the planet dwindled to its last survivor in a Cincinnati zoo. The communal nesting behavior of these birds protected them from predators, and their mobility and diet helped to maintain the tremendous numbers. However, the introduction of the telegraph kept hunters informed of nesting locations and the development of a nationwide railway system got birds quickly to market. These writers present a vivid picture of the life and the means by which the pigeons were, unhappily, exterminated.

Fears that the white pelican was an endangered species (1933) appear to be groundless in 1985, according to an update on its breeding status. More accurate surveys, decreased harassment and hydroelectric dams which provide open water are cited as reasons for their increase in numbers.

Marian Dornhaffer

Wildlife Watch: Look for Leg Flags on Migrating Shorebirds

Millions of shorebirds migrate northward from South America each spring to breed in N. America, passing through several countries along the way. The Pan-American Shorebird Program, supported largely by WWF, is comprised of fourteen private and governmental groups from Latin America, Canada, and the United States who coordinate research on migrant shorebird conservation. One of the program's major goals is to map bird migration pathways for conservation and research purposes.

Wildlife watch, cont.

You can help by looking for tagged shorebirds along North or South American coastlines, particularly on sandy beaches and sand-flats. The location of colored leg flags provides the key to where they were captured. While there may be other bands on the bird, the most important thing is to determine the color or colors of any flags.

Please report the color of the flags for each bird spotted, the location of the sightings, and date to:

Dr. J. P. Myers
Academy of Natural Sciences
Nineteenth and the Parkway
Philadelphia, Pa. 19103

Efforts in 1986 will concentrate on: Sanderling, Red Knot, Ruddy Turnstone, Black-bellied Plover, Semipalmated Plover, Piping Plover, White-rumped Sandpiper, and Semipalmated Sandpiper.

UPDATES TO MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Welcome to the following new Associate Members:

Joseph DiDomenico
601 Winspear Rd.
Elma, N. Y. 14059 Tel. 683-7343

Kathleen Hentz
27 Inwood Place
Buffalo, N.Y. 14209 Tel. H-885-7598, B-846-8765

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

May 28: "Formed to Fly" Charles Reid, Aeronautical Engineer at Cal-span's Transonic Wind Tunnel, will explain how the modern bird, like an airplane, is structurally and functionally efficient, able to take flight, stay aloft and reach its destination even under adverse conditions.

June 11: Annual Picnic, Old Fort Erie Park. 6 p.m. Bring Supper.

Further info: contact Dick Christensen (632-7762)

FIELD TRIPS

May 18: May Bird Count

May 25: Sunday. Canadian shore of Lake Erie for shorebirds.
Leaders: Bruce Chilton (833-9242) and Art Schaffner (835-7589). We will meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Vermont and Busti entrance to the Peace Bridge, or 7:15 a.m. at the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge on the Canadian side.

May 30, 31 & June 1: Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Allegany Nature Pilgrimage

June 22: Sunday. Rushing Stream Sanctuary in morning and Fran Rew's retreat for picnic. Bring lunch and meet at Leisureland parking lot at 8:00 a.m. Leisureland motel complex is on Camp Road, Hamburg. Rushing Stream's location (9 miles south of Forestville) is shown on the map inside the cover of each "Audubon Outlook". We will meet Fran Rew there at 9:00 a.m.

June XX: A Kirtland's Warbler trip to Michigan, best made in June, is under consideration. Coordinate your ideas with Bill Burch. (773-3690)

Usually these trips take most of a day so a lunch should be brought. For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690); Grand Island, N.Y.

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-a-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Dr. Extension, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, N.Y. 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$10.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Pat Cordaro (printing)
Barbara Halvorsen (typing)
Brad Lown (mailing)

Editorial Board: Wavel Barber
Marian Dornhaffer
Bradley Lown
Julia Wells

EDITOR: Charles Halvorsen
9 Yale Place
Buffalo, New York 14210
(716) 826-9247

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

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JUN 23 1986

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

VOLUME 52

MARCH 1986

NUMBER 3

THE MONTH

Aside from a seven inch snowfall at Buffalo and high winds on the 7th, there were no serious weather disturbances during February although it was a gloomy month with only 22% of possible sunshine; a heavy fog blanketed the area from February 17th through the 20th, a period of unseasonably warm temperatures and a seemingly continual light rainfall. While no major movement of migrating waterfowl or passerines into our study area was in evidence by month's end, a report received at the Buffalo Museum of Science on February 16th told of five apparently territorial male Red-winged Blackbirds in full song in the Town of Langford and a pair of American Robins is alleged to have commenced nest construction on the grounds of the Buffalo General Hospital during the last week of the month! Walter Klabunde advised that 11 migrant Red-tailed Hawks passed over the lookout at the Beamer Point Conservation Area in the Town of Grimsby, Ontario on February 22nd to inaugurate the long spring raptor migration. The average temperature for the month was 24.5° (F), exactly normal for the period. Precipitation measured 2.60 inches, .20 inches above the norm and snowfall was 17.3 inches, .6 inches below average. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Once again this winter, the warm open waters of Dunkirk Harbor have made this oasis on ice-choked Lake Erie the premier attraction for bird-watchers and waterbirds in Western New York. We are in the debt of a number of Chautauqua County bird-watchers, many of whom are members of the Lake Erie Bird Club, for their faithful reporting of the remarkable variety of species to be seen there. Reports in February include eight Pied-billed Grebes seen by Dave Gagne and Bob Sundell on the 1st and three Red-necked Grebes reported by Terry and Judy Mosher on the 11th. The wintering Tundra Swan, first

seen at the harbor in January was reported throughout February in association with an adult Mute Swan. On February 11th, the Moshers also saw an adult white phase Snow Goose at Dunkirk Harbor, a remarkably tame bird first discovered on the lawn south of the main pier. It was subsequently seen by many observers and on the 27th, Wavel and Maxine Barber reported that it had been joined by a second Snow Goose, a blue phase bird. A male Wood Duck continued to winter in Dunkirk Harbor in February. On February 16th, a banner day, Gagne and Sundell saw 150 Black Ducks there as well as 42 White-winged Scoters, 1000 Red-breasted Mergansers and 32 American Coots. Earlier, on the 8th 200 Redheads were in the harbor. And that's not all; on February 22nd, the Moshers identified an adult Laughing Gull in winter plumage flying among the Ring-billed and Herring Gulls between the inner breakwall and the shore in the harbor. This bird was noticeably two to three inches smaller in dimensions than the Ring-bills and it had "an elegant slate-gray" mantle which blended into black wing tips with no white markings. This gull was also seen later on this date by Frances Rew and Joe Gulla. One week earlier, Rew estimated 18,000 Ring-billed Gulls in the harbor. One to three Glaucous Gulls, one Iceland Gull and a Little Gull were also seen there in February.

Other records of interest in February include Gordon Bellerby's report of five King Eiders continuing to winter at the mouth of the Niagara River at Niagara-on-the-Lake; these ducks included two immature male and three female birds. The sub-adult Bald Eagle which continued to be seen in the gorge of the lower Niagara River between Lewiston and Youngstown during February, bore a green wing tag which identified it as a bird banded as a fledgling at Long Point, Ontario. On the 15th, Willie D'Anna found a single Purple Sandpiper at the Niagara Reservation State Park on Goat Island, Niagara Falls. Earlier, on the 1st, four Purple Sandpipers were reported from this location. Dave Gagne reported that one to two Common Snipe were seen again in February in the water-filled ditch next to N.Y. Route #380 in the hamlet of Towerville in Chautauqua County. Up to four Iceland Gulls were among the hundreds of Ring-billed and Herring Gulls seen from the overlook at the Adam Beck Generating Station at Niagara Falls, Ontario during the month. It was definitely not the winter of the Snowy Owl. One record for February and only the second for the season, was received by the compiler, that of a bird seen by Grace O'Dell at Times Beach on the Buffalo waterfront on the 28th. On February 9th, Jeffrey Yurko photographed a Saw-whet Owl perched in a tree next to his bird feeder in the back yard of his residence on Ashland Avenue in Buffalo. It is the only record of this uncommon winter visitor in Buffalo in many years.

In addition to the many interesting birds recorded at Dunkirk Harbor by Dave Gagne and Bob Sundell on February 16th, Gagne also found six Yellow-rumped Warblers of the flock wintering on the West Forest Road in the Town of Portland in Chautauqua County, on that date. Harold Axtell counted up to 60 Northern Cardinals and 55 white-throated Sparrows visiting his feeders at Rose Hill Road in the Town of Fort Erie. There were several records of Lapland Longspurs in February

including four birds seen by Dave Gagne and Bob Sundell in a large flock of Snow Buntings in the Town of Pomfret. Finally, the eruption of Common Redpolls in our study area this winter assumed major proportions in the Town of Pomfret in Chautauqua County this month. Frances Rew reported 80 in a flock in that township on February 1st; Terry Mosher counted 90 redpolls on Farel Road in that township on the 10th and Willie D'Anna and Dave Collins estimated 150 in their count on the 15th; Dave Dister reported 90 redpolls on February 23.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

FEBRUARY 1986 NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the "Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario" (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Pied-billed Grebe	February 16	8 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Sundell
Horned Grebe	" 16	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	" 16	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Sundell
*Red-necked Grebe	" 1, 11	1, 3 Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers et al
Great Blue Heron	" 8	1 Amity Twp.	D&L Burton
	" 26	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
Tundra Swan	" 6	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Dornhaffer, Walker
	" 16	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Sundell
	" 22	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers, Flory et al
<u>Mute Swan</u>	" 11	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Axtell
	" 15	1 Dunkirk Harbor	D'Anna, Collins
	" 16	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Sundell
	" 22	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers, Flory et al
*Snow Goose	" 11	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers
	" 15	1 Dunkirk Harbor	D'Anna, Collins
	" 16	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne et al
	" 22	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Gula, Jr.
	" 27	2 Dunkirk Harbor	W&M Barber
Wood Duck	" 6, 20	1 Springville	O'Dell
	" 16	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Gula, Jr.
*Green-w. Teal	" 24F	2 Jamestown	Dister
Amer. Black Duck	" 16	150 Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Sundell
	" 18	2 Amity Twp.	D&L Burton

Vol. 52, No. 3 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Gadwall	February	16	2	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Sundell
American Wigeon	"	22	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Gula, Jr.
Ring-necked Duck	"	16, 22	2	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne et al
*King Eider	"	9, 15, 23	3-5	Niag-on-Lake	D'Anna et al
	"	13, 27	5, 4	Niag-on-Lake	Bellerby
White-w. Scoter	"	1-22	4-30	Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher et al
	"	16	42	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Sundell
	"	22	55	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Hooded Merganser	"	6	1	Springville	O'Dell
	"	16	3	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Sundell
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	6, 7, 28	1, 1, 1	Wales	O. Rosche
Cooper's Hawk	"	5	1	Rose Hill Rd, Ont.	Axtell
	"	13	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	16	1	Pomfret Twp.	Gagne
	"	22	1	Belmont	D&L Burton
	"	26	1	Grand Island	Hess
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	8, 19	2, 1	Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	12	1	Ward Twp.	D&L Burton
	"	12, 15	1, 1	Friendship Twp.	D&L Burton
	"	23	1	Wainfleet Twp, Ont.	Campbell (BOS)
American Coot	"	16	32	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Sundell
*Purple Sandpiper	"	15	1	Goat Island	D'Anna, Collins
Common Snipe	"	16, 22	1, 2	Towerville	Gagne, Sundell
*Laughing Gull	"	22	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers, Rew et al
Little Gull	"	16	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Gula, Jr.
Bonaparte's Gull	"	16	5	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne et al
Ring-billed Gull	"	15	18, 000	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew et al
Iceland Gull	"	11	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
	"	15	1	Adam Beck Hydro	D'Anna, Collins
	"	16	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne, Sundell
	"	22	4	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	"	22, 27	3, 1	Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers, Flory et al
	"	27	1	Dunkirk Harbor	W&M Barber
Glaucous Gull	"	15, 16, 22	1, 3, 2	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	"	16	2	Dunkirk Harbor	Gagne et al
	"	22	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers et al
	"	27	1	Dunkirk Harbor	W&M Barber
Snowy Owl	"	28	1	Times Beach, Bf.	O'Dell
*Long-eared Owl	"	1	1	Porter Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	23	2	Lowbanks, Ont.	Campbell (BOS)
*N. Saw-whet Owl	"	9	1	Buffalo	Yurko
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	15	1	Fort Niagara SP	D'Anna, Collins
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	1, 2, 13	1	Pomfret Twp.	Flory
	"	14, 17	1, 1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Northern Flicker	"	16	2	Portland Twp.	Gagne
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-28	2-4	Amity Lake (f)	V&R Pitzrick
	"	17	1	Orchard Park	O'Dell
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	2	1	Holland	O'Dell
Brown Creeper	"	3, 4	1, 1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	4	1	Buffalo	O'Dell
Carolina Wren	"	15	1	Niag. Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, R&N Collins

Vol. 52, No. 3 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Golden-cr. Kinglet	Febr. 12, 20	2, 3	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
American Robin	" 5 reports -	16 max.		
Northern Shrike	" 16	1	Lewiston Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
"	" 23	1	Brocton	Dister
Yellow-r. Warbler	" 16	6	Portland Twp.	Gagne
Northern Cardinal	" 1-28	60	Rose Hill Rd, Ont.	Axtell
*Rufous-s. Towhee	" 1-28	1-2	Ft. Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
Field Sparrow	" 7-15	1	Rose Hill Rd, Ont.	Axtell
"	" 7-25	1	Belmont	D&L Burton
Song Sparrow	" 1-15	2	Rose Hill Rd, Ont.	Axtell
"	" 9	1	Pomfret Twp.	Flory
"	" 20	1	Springville	O'Dell
"	" 28	1	Ft. Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
White-thr. Sparrow	" 1-28	2-3	Belmont	D&L Burton
"	" 1-28	55	Rose Hill Rd, Ont.	Axtell
"	" 11-24	1	Orchard Park	O'Dell
Lapland Longspur	" 10	2	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	" 16	4	Pomfret Twp.	Gagne, Sundell
"	" 22	2	Alabama Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
Snow Bunting	" 7	50	Amity Twp.	D&L Burton
"	" 8	50	Alfred	Klingensmith
"	" 10, 15	35, 150	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher et al
"	" 14	32	Villanova Twp.	Mosher
"	" 14	500	Kiantone	Dister
"	" 16	300	Pomfret Twp.	Rew, Gagne et al
Red-w. Blackbird	" 1-28	10-25	Wheatfield Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
Brown-h. Cowbird	" 1-16	3-8	Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
"	" 20	2	Kenmore	Hess
Pine Grosbeak	" 22	1	Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
Purple Finch	" 16	1	Lake Erie SP	Gagne
Common Redpoll	" 1, 16	80, 17	Pomfret Twp.	Rew
"	" 10	90	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	" 15	150	Pomfret Twp.	D'Anna, Collins
"	" 16	7	Pomfret Twp.	Gagne, Sundell
"	" 20, 21	2, 3	Depew	W&M Barber
"	" 23	90	Pomfret Twp.	Dister
"	" 27	2	Forest Lwn, Bf.	O'Dell
American Goldfinch	" 4 reports -	35 max.		
Evening Grosbeak	" 7 reports -	mainly south of Buffalo. 82 max.		

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....	97
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue.....	9
Total for year.....	106

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Report of B.O.S. Ontario Owl Trip

February 23, 1986, 47 U.S. and Canadian birders scoured a variety of Canadian bush (woodlots) hoping to find Long-eared Owls, or Northern Saw-whet Owls, or Great Horned Owls, or Whatever Owls.

We were rewarded by catching sight of a Northern Harrier patrolling one conifer grove and two Long-eared Owls moving among the trees on their silent wings. One of these Asio otus chose to perch and pose for a few minutes while it viewed the viewers.

A quarter mile trek along a trail peppered with the fascinating Spring-tails (Snow fleas) led us into Wainfleet Bog where we found the Short-eared Owls were enjoying the winter day somewhere else.

Our caravan headed for St. Catharines' airport where the Snowy Owl had been parked among the tethered airplanes.

On the way, we stopped where the Great Horned Owls' nest could be seen. It was seen, the nest that is. It had snow in it. Had a predator destroyed the eggs?

On to the airport, but apparently the Snowy had filed its flight plan for the Northlands.

During the trip around the Canadian countryside, we had good looks at a nearby dark phase Rough-legged Hawk, 8 Robins eating apples in an old apple tree, 12 Red-tailed Hawks perched, feeding or flying. We had a brief glimpse of 250 Snow Buntings and 12 Horned Larks, 6 species of waterfowl, 3 species of gulls, a Brown Creeper, 1 White-throated Sparrow, a few Golden-crowned Kinglets, a Brown Creeper and 14 other species.

The Owls were scarce but it was a fine day.

Wavel H. Barber

FROM FARTHER AFIELD

1986 KIRTLAND'S WARBLER TOURS - MICHIGAN

Kirtland's warbler nesting areas in northern Michigan will be closed and posted against public entry during the 1986 nesting season. Warbler watchers may see the bird and view nesting areas only by participating in guided tours conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Forest Service.

Kirtland's Warbler Tours - cont.

Free guided tours to Warbler nesting areas will depart from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Grayling Field Office in Grayling and from the U.S. Forest Service District Ranger Office in Mio. The tours will begin May 15 and end July 4. The Grayling tour will be offered daily at 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. The Mio tour will be offered at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and at 7:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday. No tours will be offered on Monday or Tuesday from Mio.

Actual sighting of the Kirtland's Warbler is not guaranteed. The average date when the first Kirtland's warbler arrives at the nesting area is May 12; the latest recorded date of the first arrival is May 20. Thus, the chance of seeing the bird during the early guided tours is less than optimum. The best period for seeing the warbler is during late May and the month of June. The chance of viewing diminishes after July 1. Participants are encouraged to bring binoculars or spotting scopes.

Tour guides prefer small groups because they create less disturbance and are more likely to see the bird. No reservations are necessary for individuals or small groups.

UPDATES TO MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Welcome to the following new Associate Members:

Michael F. Galas
16 Grand Avenue
Tonawanda, N.Y. 14150
Tel. 693-4892

Mrs. Margaret Stewart
146 Traverse Blvd.
Kenmore, N.Y. 14223
877-4437

Congratulations to the following new Active Members:

Bruce L. Chilton
Alan Kraft
Lois Kraft

Roberta McDonald
Rev. Raymond Prybis
Ellen Schopp

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

June 11: Annual Picnic, Old Fort Erie Park. 6 p.m. Bring Supper
Further info: contact Dick Christensen (632-7762)

FIELD TRIPS

- June 22: Sunday. Rushing Stream Sanctuary in morning and Fran Rew's retreat for picnic. Bring lunch and meet at Leisureland parking lot at 8:00 a.m. Leisureland Motel complex is on Camp Road, Hamburg. Rushing Stream's location (9 miles south of Forestville) is shown on the map inside the cover of each "Audubon Outlook". We will meet Fran Rew there at 9:00 a.m.
- July 13: Sunday. Canoe trip on Oak Orchard Creek for Prothonotary Warbler (we hope). Meet at the Iroquois Wildlife Refuge headquarters on Casey Road at 8:00 a.m. or at the Knowlesville Rd. launch site at 8:30. Bring your canoe and lunch. An easy 4 mile trip ending in early afternoon. Leaders: Bill Burch (773-3690) and Will D'Anna (1-731-4348)
- July 27: Sunday. Canadian shore of Lake Erie for shorebirds. Leader: Dick Byron (892-9496). We will meet at 8:00 a.m. at Vermont and Busti or at 8:15 at the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge (Canadian side).
- August 24: Sunday. Canadian shore of Lake Erie for shorebirds. Details same as above. Leader: to be announced.
- Sept. 12-14: Fri. - Sun. Hawk Cliff - fall raptor migration. Details to be announced.

Usually these trips take most of a day so a lunch should be brought. For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690); Grand Island, N.Y.

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-a-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Dr. Extension, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

Vol. 52, No. 3

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, N.Y. 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$10.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of
The Prothonotary was provided by the following
people:

Pat Cordaro (Printing)
Barbara Halvorsen (typing)
Brad Lown (mailing)

Editorial Board: Wavel Barber
Marian Dornhaffer
Bradley Lown
Julia Wells

EDITOR: Charles Halvorsen
9 Yale Place
Buffalo, N.Y. 14210
(716) 826-9247

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of
the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are under 15 years of age is expected to increase by 1.2 billion, from 1.1 billion in 1990 to 2.3 billion in 2010. The number of people aged 65 and over is expected to increase by 1.1 billion, from 0.4 billion in 1990 to 1.5 billion in 2010. The number of people aged 15-64 is expected to increase by 1.1 billion, from 1.1 billion in 1990 to 2.2 billion in 2010. The number of people aged 65 and over is expected to increase by 1.1 billion, from 0.4 billion in 1990 to 1.5 billion in 2010. The number of people aged 15-64 is expected to increase by 1.1 billion, from 1.1 billion in 1990 to 2.2 billion in 2010.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY

28 1986
ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

VOLUME 52

APRIL 1986

NUMBER 4

THE MONTH

Save for two brief spells of uncomfortably cold weather in the early and middle parts of the month, March was pleasant with mild temperatures, total precipitation of only 1.95 inches (1.02 inches below the norm) and 44% of possible sunshine. While a low temperature of 2°(F) was recorded on the bitter cold day of March 8th, just two days later the thermometer reading was 65°(F) preceding gale force winds and a violent thunderstorm. By mid-month, all of the expected early March migrants had made their arrival with early dates for several species. The final week of the month was unseasonably warm, sunny and dry with the temperature climbing to 70°(F) on March 25th and then to a high for the period of 74° on the 29th. Total snowfall at Buffalo in March measured only 4.8 inches, three inches of this amount being recorded on the 6th. The average temperature for the period was 36.2°(F), 3.2° above normal. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

As might be anticipated, the pleasant weather stimulated migratory activity and there were larger than usual numbers of some birds as well as early arrival dates. The lone Red-necked Grebe seen in Dunkirk Harbor since January, remained there until March 8th at which time it was in breeding plumage. Dave Dister reported the first migrant Horned Grebes, 120 birds at Celoron on Chautauqua Lake on the 24th. An early Great Egret was seen by Don Endres at the School House Marsh on the Oak Orchard Road in the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on March 28th; it was apparently an adult bird in breeding plumage judging from the long white plumes extending back beyond the tail. Unusually large numbers of migrant Tundra Swans were seen on the Niagara Frontier this month. Pam McNeil counted 110 swans in the Town of Hamburg on March 10th and Fran Rew and Lois Buck reported 165

flying over the Forsythe Road hawk lookout in the Town of Ripley in Chautauqua County on the 18th, a day of major migratory movement for many birds. Dave Dister saw 200 Tundra Swans on Chautauqua Lake at Fluvanna on March 22nd while Don Endres counted 175 in the wetlands of the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area and the adjacent Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge in Genesee and Orleans counties on the 24th. The adult Mute Swan that wintered in Dunkirk Harbor was last seen there on March 1st; on the 30th, Rew and Buck reported an adult Mute Swan in a flooded gravel pit off of N.Y. Route #62 in the Town of South Dayton in Cattaraugus County. The month passed without any reports of White-fronted Geese but there were many sightings of Snow Geese in both color phases in the Oak Orchard wetlands with a maximum count of seven geese, three white phase and four blue phase birds at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on March 31st. The first presumptive Canada Geese migrants of the season were 200 birds observed by Vivian Pitzrick on Amity Lake in the Town of Alfred in Allegany County on March 3rd. Gordon Bellerby writes that two of the wintering King Eiders at Niagara-on-the-Lake, one immature male and one female bird remained there throughout the month.

Although the hawk lookout in the Niagara Escarpment at the Beamer Point Conservation Area in the Town of Grimsby, Ontario is 1½ miles east of the boundary of the B.O.S. study area in the Niagara Peninsula, it is frequently mentioned in these pages because of the remarkable system of daily tallying of the number of migrant hawks and other raptors flying over the lookout from late February until the end of May each year. This project, manned by volunteers recruited by the Hawk Migration Association of North America provides the most thorough coverage of this flight in our study area imaginable. B.O.S. member Walter Klabunde has played a prominent role in organizing this annual spring activity and insuring its continued valuable contribution to knowledge of the migratory activities of these birds. He reports that the southerly and southwesterly winds that gave us so many mild days in March also resulted in a record count for the month at Beamer Point of 5,361 raptors including six Northern Goshawks and seven Bald Eagles on the 18th which, as previously noted, was a banner day for migration. Two Golden Eagles were also seen over Beamer Point, one bird on the 20th and 21st of March. Verbal reports received at the Buffalo Museum of Science tell of an early Osprey over Golden Hills State Park in the Town of Somerset in Niagara County on March 30th and an early Merlin among 1000 hawks passing over Braddock's Bay east of Rochester on the 28th. Martha Junkin reported an early Turkey Vulture flying over the Beaver Meadow Road in the Town of Java on March 11th.

Although the only records of Bald Eagle sightings in our study area proper in March consisted of 'local' birds, at least two adults and an immature eagle at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, their activities generated considerable excitement. On March 23rd, Willie D'Anna and the participants on a BOS field trip to the Oak Orchard area were thrilled to see an adult Bald Eagle engaged in nest construction in a large oak tree at the edge of a woodlot behind the

administration building of the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on Casey Road. Refuge personnel confirmed that two adult Bald Eagles had visited the nest daily for several days prior to that time and apparently had commenced construction on it in 1985 but it was unnoticed until the recent winter. The eagles were banded birds from Alaska that were brought to the adjacent N.Y. State Oak Orchard Wildlife Management Area as fledglings in 1981 as part of an ambitious project by the Department of Environmental Conservation to reintroduce this species as a breeding-permanent resident. (See Prothonotary, vol. 47:8, pg. 98, 1981). At month's end, the eagles were still in occupancy and hopes were high for the first brood to be born on the refuge.

Other records of interest in March include a very early Pectoral Sandpiper seen by Dave Dister on the Riverside Road in the Town of Kiantone in Chautauqua County on March 18th. Terry Mosher reports that the Laughing Gull wintering in Dunkirk Harbor since January was seen throughout the month and it had the full hood and plumage of a breeding adult by the end of March. Grace O'Dell saw two Common Redpolls in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Buffalo between March 10th and 21st; two redpolls were reported at the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area in Genesee County as late as March 27th.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Ave., Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

MARCH 1986 NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

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- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Pied-billed Grebe	March	1	3 Dunkirk Harbor	Zebehazy
"	"	18F	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	21	1 Ripley	Rew, Buck
Horned Grebe	"	24F	120 Celoron	Dister
"	"	27	171 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	27	3 Amity Lake	V&R Pitzrick
Red-necked Grebe	"	9	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Dister
Great Blue Heron	"	3	1 Grand Island	W&M Barber
"	"	15	1 Arkwright Twp.	Mosher et al
*Great Egret	"	28	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Tundra Swan	"	10F	110 Hamburg	McNeil
"	"	17	80 Wales	O. Rosche
Mute Swan	"	30	1 S. Dayton Twp.	Rew, Buck

Snow Goose	March	1	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Zebehazy
"	"	17F-31	1-7	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	22	1	Newstead Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	31	2	Iroquois NWR	Hess
Canada Goose	"	3F	200	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	13	28	Depew	W&M Barber
Wood Duck	"	1	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Zebehazy
"	"	6-18	1	Springville	O'Dell
"	"	12F	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	22	1	Villanova Twp.	Moshers et al
"	"	22	6	Burgeson WS	Mosher et al
Green-w. Teal	"	11	3	Niag.-on-Lake	Bellerby
Amer. Black Duck	"	31	2	Cuba Marsh	Pitzrick
Northern Pintail	"	12F	7	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	15	6	Yates Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
*Blue-w. Teal	"	23F	4	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
*Northern Shoveler	"	11F	1	Falconer	Dister
"	"	14, 24	1, 3	Celoron	Dister
"	"	18	2	Ripley	Rew, Buck
"	"	26, 31	9, 26	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	29	2	Tonawanda WMA	Hess
"	"	31	1	Cuba Lake	Pitzrick
Gadwall	"	29F	4	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
American Wigeon	"	3F	2	Jamestown	Dister
"	"	15	2	Yates Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
Redhead	"	22F	1-2	Newstead Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
Ring-necked Duck	"	11F	3	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	22	51	Poland Twp.	Mosher et al
"	"	25, 26	175, 220	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Lesser Scaup	"	22F	1	Poland Twp.	Mosher et al
"	"	30, 31	19, 1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
King Eider	"	1-31	2	Niag.-on-Lake	Bellerby
"	"	2	3	Ft. Niagara SP	W&H Klabunde (BOS)
Oldsquaw	"	24F	9	Celoron	Dister
"	"	27	2	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
Surf Scoter	"	2	1	Lewiston	W&H Klabunde (BOS)
"	"	28	1	Youngstown	Cooper et al
White-w. Scoter	"	T	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Zebehazy
"	"	9	32	Dunkirk Harbor	Dister
Hooded Merganser	"	6	1	Springville	O'Dell
"	"	15F, 22	4, 4	Arkwright Twp.	Moshers et al
"	"	22	1	Newstead Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
*Ruddy Duck	"	24F	8	Celoron	Dister
"	"	28, 30	2, 2	Ripley	Rew, Buck
*Turkey Vulture	"	11F	1	Java Twp.	M. Junkin
"	"	22	1	Poland Twp.	Mosher et al
Bald Eagle	"	9F-24	1-2	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	(2 adults, 1 immature)			
"	"	23	1	Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
"	"	(adult on nest)			

Vol. 52, No. 4 "Noteworthy Records", cont.

Northern Harrier	March	1	1	Wales	0. Rosche
"	"	18	1	Pinehurst	Zebehazy
"	"	21-29	1-2	Friendship Twp.	D&L Burton
"	"	24	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	"	28	1	Langford	O'Dell
"	"	31	3	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	2-7	1	Wales (f)	0. Rosche
"	"	6-28	1	Depew	W&M Barber
"	"	9	1	Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
"	"	9	1	City of Tonawanda	Hess
"	"	10-31	1-3	Hamburg	McNeil
"	"	18	1	Pinehurst	Zebehazy
Cooper's Hawk	"	4-31	1	Amity Lake	V&R Pitzrick
"	"	7,8	1	Silver Creek	Neveu
"	"	13	1	Belmont	V&R Pitzrick
"	"	21	1	Depew	W&M Barber
Northern Goshawk	"	16	1	Portland Twp.	Rew, Buck
*Red-should. Hawk	"	10F	2	Pinehurst	Zebehazy
"	"	15-29	1-4	Hamburg	McNeil
Red-tailed Hawk	"	10	72	Pinehurst	Zebehazy
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	1	1	Amity Twp.	D&L Burton
"	"	2	1	Porter Twp.	W&H Klabunde
"	"	12,20	1,1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	16	1	Royalton Twp.	Hess
American Coot	"	11F	1	Niag.-on-Lake	Bellerby
"	"	15	1	Tonawanda WMA	D'Anna
*Killdeer	"	10F	3	Pinehurst	Zebehazy
"	"	12	1	Alabama Twp.	Endres
"	"	12	1	Amity Lake	V&R Pitzrick
*Greater Yellowlegs	"	26F	19	Iroquois NWR	Endres
*Pectoral Sandpiper	"	18F	1	Kiantone	Dister
"	"	22	2	Kiantone	Mosher et al
"	"	29	110	Tonawanda WMA	Hess
(Maximum count for the month.)					
Common Snipe	"	18F	1	Zoar Valley	O'Dell
"	"	21	18	Randolph	Rew, Buck
*American Woodcock	"	15F, 17	1,2-3	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	"	17	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	17	1	Buffalo	O'Dell
Bonaparte's Gull	"	29F	6	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	31	7	Cuba Lake	Pitzrick
Iceland Gull	"	4,8	3,3	Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher et al
Snowy Owl	"	1,2	1	Wheatfield Twp.	D'Anna et al
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	2	1	Ft. Niagara SP	W&H Klabunde
(BOS)					
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	15,16	1	Pomfret Twp.	Flory
Northern Flicker	"	14	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	18	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
*Eastern Phoebe	"	16F	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	25	2	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
*Tree Swallow	"	26F	12	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	26F	4	Amity Lake	Pitzrick

Tufted Titmouse	March	1-31	1-2	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	1-31	1	Silver Creek(f)	Neveu
"	"	11	1	Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	13	1	Cheektowaga	O'Dell
"	"	18	1	Hamburg	O'Dell
"	"	29	2	Orchard Park	O'Dell
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	2	1	Orchard Park	O'Dell
"	"	2-10	1	Silver Creek(f)	Neveu
"	"	24	1	N. Boston	O'Dell
*Eastern Bluebird	"	12F-31	1-5	Amity Lake & Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	23,29	1,1	Amity Twp.	D&L Burton
"	"	24	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	24,28	2	Pomfret Twp.	Flory
"	"	31	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
Hermit Thrush	"	8	1	Lake Erie SP	Mosher et al
N. Mockingbird	"	1	1	Dunkirk	Mosher et al
"	"	2	3	Porter Twp.	Klabundes (BOS)
Northern Shrike	"	1	1	Lewiston Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	11	1	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
"	"	16	1	Tonawanda WMA	Hess
"	"	16	1	Porter Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
Field Sparrow	"	1-12	1	Belmont	D&L Burton
"	"	28F	1	Silver Creek(f)	Neveu
*Savannah Sparrow	"	23F	1	N. Boston	O'Dell
*Fox Sparrow	"	21F,28	1,2	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Swamp Sparrow	"	31F	3	Cuba Marsh	Pitzrick
White-thr. Sparrow	"	1-31	2-3	Belmont	D&L Burton
Lapland Longspur	"	1	1	Porter Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
Snow Bunting	"	1	175	Porter Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	2	2	Arkwright Twp.	Mosher
"	"	2	50	Porter Twp.	Klabundes (BOS)
"	"	3	25	Alabama Twp.	W&M Barber
*Eastern Meadowlark	"	15F	1	Cherry Creek Twp.	Mosher
"	"	15F	4	Somerset Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	18,23	5,14	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
*Rusty Blackbird	"	14F	10	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	"	22	60	Leon Twp.	Mosher et al
Common Grackle	"	10F	3	Depew	W&M Barber
"	"	12	2	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Purple Finch	"	16-31	1-2	Wales (f)	O. Rosche
Common Redpoll	"	10-21	3+	Forest Lawn, Bflo.	O'Dell
Pine Siskin	"	2	7	Youngstown(f)	Klabundes (BOS)
Evening Grosbeak	"	5 reports	- 80	max.	

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....	106
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue.....	18
Total for year.....	124

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Field Trip to the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge

March 23, 1986

Twenty-five members took part in this popular annual waterfowl trip. The day was a chilly 38° F, overcast in the morning and partially sunny in the afternoon. A 25 mph wind kept the small birds out of sight.

The Clarence sinks still had some water in the low spots, but these were to dry up several days later. A snow goose was found at Nice Road, and 15 tundra swans in the air over Stage Road and another 15 on the water on Steiner. Canada geese and pintails essentially completed the Sinks tally.

Upon reaching the Refuge, the day turned into a bald eagle counting experience, some members seeing five and others, four. The first was an adult perched at Cayuga Pool. Across from the Pool on the dike were three road-killed deer carcasses, placed there to feed the eagles for 10 days when the ponds had frozen over. The pair of four-year-old adult eagles were on their nest 3/4 mile behind the visitors center. The nest site, selected by the eagles, could not be in a better place since it is clearly visible from the lawn. Both eagles had yellow plastic wing markers, indicating that they were among the 21 released from the Oak Orchard hacking tower in 1982. Refuge persons at this time were unsure that the nest had eggs or young but later observation showed that it did. The final two eagles were two immatures sighted in the Windmill Pond area. That pond had a good supply of waterfowl, including 76 tundra swans.

The writer's tally showed no tree swallows and no shorebirds except for 7 killdeer. His complete tally is as follows: great blue heron 6, tundra swan 250, snow goose 6, Canada goose 35,000 - refuge count, wood duck 1, green-winged teal 1, black duck 10, mallard 100, pintail 250, blue-winged teal 1, American wigeon 15, canvasback 4, ring-necked duck 100, common goldeneye 18, hooded merganser 20, common merganser 3, turkey vulture 6, bald eagle 5, northern harrier 2, red-tailed hawk 6, American kestrel 11, killdeer 7, ring-billed gull 20, herring gull 50, rock dove, mourning dove, red-bellied woodpecker 1, downy woodpecker 1, crow 5, bl.-capped chickadee 4, White-breasted nuthatch 1, Am. robin, starling, cardinal 1, American tree sparrow 1, song sparrow 1, dark-eyed junco 3, red-winged blackbird, eastern meadowlark 1, rusty blackbird 15, common grackle 30, house sparrow.

Leader: William Burch

UPDATES TO MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Welcome to the following new Associate Member:

Stephen J. Soule
413 Vermont Street
Buffalo, N. Y. 14213
Tel. 882-9033

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

Sept. 10: Summer Birding experiences of members. Share your interesting experiences, slides and anecdotes with fellow members. Up to a 10 minute presentation would be desirable to allow time for all those wishing to relive summer again.

Sept. 24: Fall Warblers. The fall migration of warblers is a most fascinating as well as a difficult and sporting proposition. In the fall, they all hug the thickets closely and when flushed out, they dart to the nearest thicket and disappear, permitting only the briefest flash of size, shape and color. The inexperienced are hopelessly confused. Bob Brock will help us take some of the confusion out of confusing fall warblers.

For further information, contact Dick Christensen, Program Committee Chairman (632-7762).

FIELD TRIPS

July 27: Sunday. Canadian shore of Lake Erie for shorebirds. Leader: Dick Byron (892-9496). We will meet at 8:00 a.m. at Vermont and Busti or at 8:15 a.m. at the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge (Canadian side).

August 24: Sunday. Canadian shore of Lake Erie for shorebirds. Details same as above. Leader to be announced.

Sept. 12-14: Fri. - Sun. Hawk Cliff - fall raptor migration. Details to be announced.

Vol. 52, No. 4 "Field Trips" cont.

Usually these trips take most of a day so a lunch should be brought. For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690); Grand Island, N.Y.

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-a-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH Day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Dr. Extension, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, N.Y. 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$10.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Pat Cordaro (Printing)
Barbara Halvorsen (Typing)
Brad Lown (Mailing)

Editorial Board: Wavel Barber
Marian Dornhaffer
Bradley Lown
Julia Wells

EDITOR: Charles Halvorsen
9 Yale Place
Buffalo, N.Y. 14210
(716) 826-9247

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY

VOLUME 52

MAY 1986

SEP 02 1986
ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

NUMBER 5

THE MONTH

April was a warm month with only two brief periods of unseasonably cold temperatures between the 9th and 11th and between the 21st and 23rd to remind us of the vicissitudes of early spring in this region. The average temperature for the month was 47.8° (F), only 2.4° above the norm although a high temperature of 78° (F) was recorded on April 1st and a record high of 88° (F) was reached in the mid-summer heat of the 28th at Buffalo. Temperatures well above normal during the last week of the month gave the impetus to an influx of late spring passerine migrants with earlier than average arrival dates for many species. Precipitation for the month measured 3.33 inches, 0.27 inches above normal with only 1.7 inches of measurable snowfall at Buffalo although up to eight inches of snow accumulated in Chautauqua County during a heavy fall there on the 11th. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

With the waterfowl migration through our study area almost complete by the first week of April, the field observer's attention becomes concentrated on the raptor flight which reaches its apogee by the last weeks of the month. We enjoyed an excellent passage of raptors this month although, again unfortunately, the records received by the compiler do not reflect the true magnitude of this flight. The first Broad-winged Hawks of the migration were reported on the Society's annual bird count on April 13th but the significant flight began on the warm, sunny 19th when Pam McNeil counted 349 Broad-wings over her home in the Town of Hamburg; she also saw an adult Golden Eagle in the flight on this memorable day. A high count of 678 Broad-wings over the Town of Hamburg was tallied by Bob Andrie and his party on April 26th. There were several verbal reports of Merlins among the migrating hawks during the last half of the month but only

one was received by the compiler, an adult bird observed both perched and in flight at the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve in Buffalo on the 29th by Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter. Reports of migrating Bald Eagles, both immature and adult birds, continued to increase this spring fueling local optimism over the prospects of this species reestablishing its status with a viable breeding population in the northeastern part of the continent. In addition to the breeding pair at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge reported in these pages last month, Bald Eagles were seen in record numbers passing over the lookout at the Beamer Point Conservation Area at Grimsby, Ontario.

Among the highlights of the Society's April Bird Count on the 13th were the observations of a male Brewer's Blackbird, seen by Dave Gagne and Dan Cordosi on Frissell Road in the Town of Kiantone in Chautauqua County and a Loggerhead Shrike at Frewsburg in that county. The count of 271 Great Blue Herons was the highest ever recorded on this census as was the number of Wild Turkey (166) Moorhen (4), and House Finch (1268). Ten year high numbers were recorded for Black-crowned Night Heron (19), Mute Swan (12), Eastern Blue Bird (20) and Northern Mockingbird (15). Other interesting records include Dave Mark's discovery of a Long-eared Owl on a nest in the White Pine plantation at the Conservation Area on the Concession Road south of the village of Cayuga in the Township of South Cayuga, Ontario, an event witnessed by the writer; a Barn Owl, the first record for the census since 1972, was reported from Chautauqua County.

In addition to the Egrets reported from the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge in March, which remained there throughout the month of April, a Great Egret was seen at Fort Erie, Ontario by Bob Sommerville on the 19th. 60 Black-crowned Night Herons were counted at the heronry in the islands in the upper rapids of the river at Niagara Falls, Ontario by Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter on April 28th. Don Endres found two Greater White-fronted Geese at the School House Marsh in the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge in Orleans County on April 2nd. The birds were sitting on a small island with a few Canada Geese of a flock of several hundred sharing the pond with them. As the birds had pink bills, they apparently were adults of the nominate race, Anser albifrons albifrons. An adult male Harlequin Duck was found in the Black Rock Canal at the foot of Porter Avenue in Buffalo by Willie D'Anna on April 18th. The bird, associated with a flock of Buffleheads, was subsequently seen by Dave Cooper on the following day and remained there until the 26th.

Once again this spring, Sandhill Cranes were reported in our study area. On April 19th, Merl and Joan Lewis of North Tonawanda were driving on the Lockport Road in the Town of Pendleton in Niagara

County when their attention was drawn to a large, long-necked bird feeding in the furrows of a plowed field some 300 feet from the highway. Although neither observer had seen a Sandhill Crane prior to this event, identification was instantaneous as the diagnostic grey plumage, bright red forehead and "jet black" legs of the adult Sandhill were easily discernable with both scope and binoculars. A report received at the Buffalo Museum of Science told of a Sandhill Crane flying over the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve in this city on the 20th. Betsy Potter reported a record five Purple Sandpipers on the rocky shore of the upper river at Goat Island in the Niagara Reservation State Park at Niagara Falls on April 3rd. Two adult Laughing Gulls in breeding plumage were reported at Dunkirk Harbor between the main dock and the inner breakwall by Terry and Judy Mosher on April 21st. The gulls were seen by a number of observers throughout the month, both in flight and resting on the dock.

Among the parulids that were observed in Western New York with the influx of passerine migrants during the warm days of the last week of April was a Dendroica warbler seen by Vivian Pitzrick on the 26th which, when closely observed for field marks, became the ornithological find of the month. On that date, Mrs. Pitzrick was checking nest boxes at Saunders Pond near her home in the Town of Alfred in Allegany County when she was distracted by a warbler singing from a perch on the top of a large Scotch Pine some 25 feet distant. When the bird was scrutinized with binoculars, by morphological characters and song it appeared to be an adult male Yellow-rumped Warbler but differed from the eastern ('Myrtle') race of this species by virtue of a bright yellow throat patch which identified it as a bird of the western ('Audubon') race, Dendroica coronata auduboni, an extremely rare accidental wanderer in eastern North America. Until recently, this bird enjoyed full species status as Audubon's Warbler, a western parulid closely related but distinct from its congener, the eastern Myrtle Warbler. However, field studies have revealed these supposedly distinct species interbreed regularly where the populations overlap in western Canada and hence the lumping into a single species with two geographic races identical in all respects save the bright yellow throat of both sexes of D.c. auduboni.

Finally, on April 11th, John Luensman of Mayville in Chautauqua County saw an adult Yellow-headed Blackbird in a flock of male Red-winged Blackbirds that had gathered beneath a porch at his residence on Oak Street in that village to feed on seed after a spring storm dumped up to eight inches of snow in that locality. The bird was observed by Mr. Luensman at a distance of only 16 feet with the diagnostic yellow head and white wing patches of an adult male bird clearly noted.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

APRIL 1986 NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the "Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario" (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

*Common Loon	April	4F, 5	1, 1	Amity Lake	V&R Pitzrick
	"	5	2	Cuba Lake	L&D Burton
				(6 other reports throughout the region)	
Pied-billed Grebe	"	11-11	1-2	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Horned Grebe	"	2	19	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	2, 8, 11	15, 1, 4	Cuba Lake	D&L Burton
	"	2, 8, 20	14, 3, 6	Amity Lake	V&R Pitzrick
	"	5	1	Niag.-on-lake	D'Anna
*Red-necked Grebe	"	6	1	Ripley	Rew
	"	12	1	Olcott	D'Anna, Potter
*D.-crest. Cormorant	"	1F	1	Ft. Niagara SP	D'Anna, Potter
	"	4	2	Burgeson WS	Dister
	"	11	6	Dunkirk Harbor	Dister
	"	29	22	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
*American Bittern	"	27F	1	over Ripley	Rew, Buck
	"	27F	1	Tiffit Farm NP	D'Anna, Potter
Great Egret	"	5	1	Iroquois NWR	Mosher, Schaffner et al
	"	19	1	Ft. Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	28	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Green-b. Heron	"	19	1	Tiffit Farm NP	D'Anna et al
B.-cr. Night-Heron	"	14F	2	Times Beach, Bf.	Andrie
	"	28	60	Niagara Falls (heronry)	D'Anna, Potter
Mute Swan	"	26	1	Times Beach, Bf.	D'Anna, Potter
*Gr. White-fr. Goose	"	2	2	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Snow Goose	"	6, 12	1, 4	Somerset Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	12, 20	2, 1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Northern Shoveler	"	5	10	Iroquois NWR	Mosher, Schaffner et al
	"	12	1	Burgeson WS	Dister
	"	13	3	Cayuga Twp., Ont.	Schaffner et al
	"	27	2	Carlton Twp.	Schaffner (BOS-GOS)
	"	27	2	Iroquois NWR	Schaffner (BOS-GOS)
*Harlequin Duck	"	18, 24	1, 1	Buffalo	D'Anna
	"	19	1	Buffalo	Cooper
	"	26	1	Buffalo	D'Anna, Potter

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Ruddy Duck	April	2	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Turkey Vulture	"	2	48 Hamburg Twp.	McNeil
(Maximum count for the month)				
*Osprey	"	5F	1 Shadigee	Schaffner, Chilton
"	"	11-25	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	25	7 over Ripley	Rew, Buck
"	"	26	7 Hamburg Twp.	Andrie et al
(Many reports throughout the region)				
Bald Eagle	"	5	2 at nest Iroquois NWR	Mosher et al
"	"	6	1 imm. Yates Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	20	1 imm. Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	25	1 imm. Silver Creek	Neveu
"	"	27	1 adult Hamburg Twp.	McNeil
"	"	27	2 at nest Iroquois NWR	Schaffner (BOS-GOS)
Northern Harrier	"	5	1 Cuba Twp.	D&L Burton
"	"	5	1 Tonawanda WMA	Schaffner (LEBC)
"	"	13	2 Cayuga Twp. Ont.	Schaffner et al
"	"	14	1 Hamburg Twp.	McNeil
"	"	27	1 Iroquois NWR	Schaffner (BOS-GOS)
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	19	29 Hamburg Twp.	McNeil
(Maximum count - many reports throughout region)				
Cooper's Hawk	"	1, 2, 27	1, 1, 2 Hamburg Twp.	McNeil
"	"	3	2 Ripley Twp.	Moshers, Mahoney
"	"	8	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	13	1 Pomfret Twp.	Moshers
Red-should. Hawk	"	2	1 Hamburg Twp.	McNeil
"	"	25	2 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Broad-w. Hawk	"	14	5 Hamburg Twp.	McNeil
"	"	18	1 Collins	O'Dell
"	"	19	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	19	12 Hamburg Twp.	Hess
"	"	19, 26, 28	31, 678,	
"	"		196 Hamburg Twp.	Andrie et al
"	"	25, 30	286, 118 Hamburg Twp.	McNeil
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	1	1 Hamburg Twp.	McNeil
"	"	13	1 Cayuga Twp. Ont.	Schaffner et al
*Merlin	"	29	1 Tiffy Farm NP	D'Anna, Potter
*Virginia Rail	"	26F	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
*Sora	"	19F	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Common Moorhen	"	13	2 Cayuga Twp. Ont.	Schaffner et al
"	"	23	1 Amity Lake	V&R Pitzrick
*Sandhill Crane	"	19	1 Pendleton Twp.	J&M Lewis
Greater Yellowlegs	"	2	1 Cuba Lake	D&L Burton
(7 other reports throughout the region)				
Lesser Yellowlegs	"	19	1 Times Beach, Bf.	Hess
"	"	27	2 Carlton Twp.	Schaffner (BOS-GOS)
*Spotted Sandpiper	"	28F	3 Lake Erie SP	Moshers
Pectoral Sandpiper	"	2	1 Pomfret Twp.	Flory

Pectoral Sandpiper	April	6	64 Yates Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	13	15 Alabama Twp.	Endres
Purple Sandpiper	"	3	5 Goat Island	Potter
*Dunlin	"	27F	1 Yates Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
Laughing Gull	"	21	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers
Iceland Gull	"	19	1 Buffalo	D'Anna et al
Caspian Tern	"	19	1 Buffalo	D'Anna et al
"	"	20	2 Barcelona Harbor	Dister et al
"	"	21, 24	10 Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers
"	"	22	34 Dunkirk Harbor	Dister
Common Tern	"	19	15 Buffalo	D'Anna et al
"	"	22	4 Dunkirk Harbor	Dister
"	"	22	10 Chautauqua Twp.	Dister
Common Barn-owl	"	3	1 Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
*Chimney Swift	"	26F	1 Westfield Twp.	Mosher et al
"	"	26F	2 over Ripley	Rew
"	"	26F	2 Times Beach, Bf.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	27	6 Westfield Twp.	Dister
Belted Kingfisher	"	1	3 Tifft Farm NP	W&M Barber
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	28	1 Ripley	Rew
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	12	1 Fredonia	Mosher et al
"	"	12, 13	1 Pomfret Twp.	Flory
"	"	24	2 Hamburg Twp.	McNeill
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	"	1F	2 Tifft Farm NP	W&M Barber
"	"	4	1 Tifft Farm NP	O'Dell
"	"	6	1 Long Point SP	Dister
*Least Flycatcher	"	29F	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	30	1 Burgeson WS	Dister
*Gr. Cr. Flycatcher	"	28F	1 Lake Erie SP	Moshers
"	"	30	3 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Eastern Kingbird	"	27F	1 Westfield Twp.	Dister et al
*Purple Martin	"	14F	3 over Ripley	Rew
"	"	15	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Tree Swallow	"	1-30	7-28 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	4	200 Burgeson WS	Dister
N. Rough-w. Swallow	"	19	1 Pinehurst	Andrle et al
"	"	23	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
*Bank Swallow	"	26F	2 Tifft Farm NP	D'Anna, Potter
*Cliff Swallow	"	19F	1 Ft. Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
"	"	26	2 Pinehurst	Andrle et al
Barn Swallow	"	19	1 Pinehurst	Andrle et al
"	"	20	2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-25	1 Silver Creek(f)	Neveu
"	"	1-30	1-2 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	8	1 Pomfret Twp.	Moshers
"	"	27	1 Orchard Park	O'Dell
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	2, 19	1 Orchard Park	O'Dell
"	"	14	2 Times Beach, Bf.	O'Dell
Carolina Wren	"	13	1 S. Stockton	Mosher, Mahoney
"	"	18-27	1 Eden	Andrle
"	"	30	1 Silver Creek	Neveu

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*House Wren	April	28F	2	Cheektowaga	O'Dell
	"	29	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	"	29	1	Tifft Farm NP	W&M Barber
*Winter Wren	"	1F	1	Tifft Farm NP	W&M Barber
	"	13	1	N. Harmony Twp.	Dister, Lapinsky
	"	19, 25	1	Times Beach, Bf.	Hess
	"	25	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	1	20	Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
*Ruby-cr. Kinglet	"	4F-29	1-6	Amity Lake & Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	13	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	13	4	Lake Erie SP	Flory, Goetz
*Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	"	26F	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	27	3	Long Point SP	Dister
Eastern Bluebird	"	(10 reports - all south of Buffalo)			
Hermit Thrush	"	1F	1	Tifft Farm NP	W&M Barber
	"	13	1	N. Harmony Twp.	Dister, Lapinsky
*Wood Thrush	"	30F	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Gray Catbird	"	19	1	Westfield	Rew
Brown Thrasher	"	18F, 19	1	Belmont	D&L Burton
	"	20	1	Ellicott Twp.	Dister
*Water Pipit	"	6F	1	Somerset Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	12	80	over Ripley	Rew
	"	13, 14	50, 35	Wales	O. Rosche
	"	30	75	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
*Solitary Vireo	"	19F	1	Burgeson WS	Dister
	"	24-29	1-3	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Warbling Vireo	"	26F	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	27	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
*Blue-w. Warbler	"	30	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
*Nashville Warbler	"	27F	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	"	27F	1	Westfield Twp.	Dister
	"	27F	4	Allenburg Bog	Chapple
	"	29	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Yellow Warbler	"	27F	1	Oak Orchard WMA	D'Anna et al
	"	27F-30	1-7	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	28	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	1F	1	Hamburg Twp.	McNeil
	"	20	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	23	1	Ward Twp.	D&L Burton
*D. c. auduboni	"	26	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Bl.-thr. Green Warb.	"	25F	2	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	"	25F	2	Silver Creek	Neveu
	"	27	3	Orchard Park	O'Dell
Pine Warbler	"	20F	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	24, 29	1, 1	Forest Lawn, Bf.	Hess
*Palm Warbler	"	28F	3	Lake Erie SP	Mosher
	"	28F	2	Silver Creek	Neveu
*Bl.-&-w. Warbler	"	27F	1	Pomfret Twp.	Dister et al
*American Redstart	"	29F	2	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Ovenbird	"	29F	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	29F	1	Ward Twp.	Pitzrick

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*Louisiana Water-thrush	April	21F	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Rufous-s. Towhee	"	27	3	Orchard Park	O'Dell
Amer. Tree Sparrow	"	8F	1	Belmont	D&L Burton
*Chipping Sparrow	"	12	1	Golden Hill SP	D'Anna, Potter
Field Sparrow	"	27	1	Belmont	D&L Burton
*Vesper Sparrow	"	8F	1	Pomfret Twp.	Moshers
	"	10	2	N. Boston	O'Dell
	"	2	1	Orchard Park	O'Dell
	"	1F, 4	1, 1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	4	7	Pomfret Twp.	Moshers
(6 other reports in the region)					
Savannah Sparrow	"	4	10	Pomfret Twp.	Moshers
*Grasshopper Sparrow	"	21F	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Fox Sparrow	"	1	4	Tifft Farm NP	W&M Barber
	"	8, 11, 17	1, 1, 1	Belmont	D&L Burton
	"	8, 12	1, 1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	13	1	Forest Lwn. Bf.	Hess
	"	13	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	17	1	Silver Creek(f)	Neveu
Swamp Sparrow	"	5	2	Clarence Twp.	Schaffner, Chilton
White-cr. Sparrow	"	26	2	Ripley	Rew
*Yellow-h. Blackbird	"	11	1	Mayville	Luensman
Purple Finch	"	5-29	1-2	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	6, 17	2, 1	Belmont	D&L Burton
	"	7-15	2	Wales(f)	O. Rosche
	"	21	1	Forest Lwn. Bf.	Schaffner
Pine Siskin	"	29	2	Silver Creek(f)	Neveu
Evening Grosbeak	"	8 reports from south of Buffalo & Genesee Co.			

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....	124
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue, including 17 from count.....	58
Total for year.....	182

REPORT OF THE APRIL BIRD COUNT

Date: April 13, 1986

Compiled by Tom Harper

Weather: Temperature of 30° in the morning rising to 50° in the afternoon. Sunny with winds out of the west 5 - 15 mph.

Compilation: Following is a list of species recorded on the count and total numbers. Where species were recorded in three or fewer sections, the section numbers appear in parentheses. Underlined common names indicate that the acceptable written verifications were required and submitted. An asterisk indicates first 1986 record for B.O.S. territory.

Loons - Ruddy Duck

Common Loon - 32	Blue-winged Teal - 242
Pied-billed Grebe - 72	Northern Shoveler - 26
Horned Grebe - 217	Gadwall - 31
Red-necked Grebe - 5 (1,24)	Amer. Wigeon - 160
Dbl.-crest Cormorant - 5 (6,21)	Canvasback - 163
Great Blue Heron - 271	Redhead - 38
Great Egret - 1 (17)	Ring-necked Duck - 335
*Green-backed Heron - 1F (14)	Greater Scaup - 347
Bl.-crown. Night Heron - 19F	Lesser Scaup - 836
Tundra Swan - 26	Oldsquaw - 2205
Mute Swan - 2 (11,17)	White-wing. Scoter - 31
Snow Goose - 2 (4,10)	Common Goldeneye - 247
Canada Goose - 43, 261	Bufflehead - 1259
Wood Duck - 242	Hooded Merganser - 110
Green-wing. Teal - 67	Common Merganser - 2168
Amer. Black Duck - 139	Red-br. Merganser - 5865
Mallard - 1000	Ruddy Duck - 4
Northern Pintail - 40	

Vultures - Rails

Turkey Vulture - 263	Red-tail, Hawk - 247
Osprey - 9	Rough-legged Hawk - 4
Bald Eagle - 2 (10)	Amer. Kestrel - 240
Northern Harrier - 40	Ring-neck. Pheasant - 34
Sharp-shinned Hawk - 45	*Ruffed Grouse - 58
Cooper's Hawk - 21	*Wild Turkey - 166
Red-shouldered Hawk - 10	*Comm. Moorhen - 4F (6,10,15)
*Broad-wing. Hawk - 1F (11)	Amer. Coot - 175

Shorebirds

Killdeer - 660	Pectoral Sandpiper - 523
Greater Yellowlegs - 13	Comm. Snipe - 163
*Lesser Yellowlegs - 16F (4,13,14)	Amer. Woodcock - 45

Gulls - Flycatchers

Bonaparte's Gull - 2005	*Barred Owl - 6
Ring-billed Gull - 46,377	Long-eared Owl - 1 (6)
Herring Gull - 823	Belted Kingfisher - 142
Gr. Bl.-backed Gull - 39	Red-headed Wdpkr. - 9 (3,5,14)
*Caspian Tern - 4F (19)	Red-bellied Wdpkr. - 16
*Common Tern - 53F	Yel-bellied Sapsucker - 42
Rock Dove - 1452	Downy Woodpecker - 355
Mourning Dove - 1383	Hairy Woodpecker - 120
Common Barn Owl - 1 (21)	Northern Flicker - 503
Eastern Screech Owl - 3 (7,20)	*Pileated Woodpecker - 20
Great Horned Owl - 18	Eastern Phoebe - 227

Larks - Starlings

Horned Lark - 48
 Horned Lark (E.a. praticola) - 33
 Tree Swallow - T250
 *No. Rough-wing. Swallow - 1F (22)
 *Barn Swallow - 5F
 Blue Jay - 578
 Amer. Crow - 2407
 Bl.-capped Chickadee - 1469
 Tufted Titmouse - 20
 Red-br. Nuthatch - 31
 Wh.-br. Nuthatch - 313
 Brown Creeper - 123
 Carolina Wren - 1 (20)
 Winter Wren - 20

Golden-cr. Kinglet - 525
 Ruby-cr. Kinglet - 25
 Eastern Bluebird - 120
 Hermit Thrush - 28
 Amer. Robin - 10,648
 *Gray Catbird - 1F (3)
 Northern Mockingbird - 15
 *Brown Thrasher - 4F
 Water Pipit - 81
 Cedar Waxwing - 35
 *Loggerhead Shrike - 1 (23)
 European Starling - 9792

Warblers - Finches

Yellow-rumped Warbler - 26
 Northern Cardinal - 562
 Rufous-sided Towhee - 17
 Amer. Tree Sparrow - 215
 Chipping Sparrow - 88
 Field Sparrow - 70
 Vesper Sparrow - 67
 Savannah Sparrow - 68
 Fox Sparrow - 34
 Song Sparrow - 1815
 Swamp Sparrow - 73
 Wh. Throated Sparrow - 113
 *Wh.-crowned Sparrow - 9F

Dark-eyed Junco - 4296
 Red-wing. Blackbird - 11,529
 Eastern Meadowlark - 238
 Rusty Blackbird - 228
 *Brewer's Blackbird - 1 (23)
 Comm. Grackle - 8138
 Br.-headed Cowbird - 1840
 Purple Finch - 101
 House Finch - 1268
 Pine Siskin - 7
 Amer. Goldfinch - 745
 Evening Grosbeak - 1353
 House Sparrow - 2963

Total Species - 140

Total Individuals - 179,244

Comments: Great Blue Heron 271 (highest ever), Bl.-crowned Night-Heron 19 (10 year high), Tundra Swan 26 (10 year low), Mute Swan 12 (10 year high), Comm. Goldeneye 247 (10 year low), Bufflehead 1249 (10 year high), Cooper's Hawk 21 (10 year high), Turkey 166 (highest ever), Moorhen 4 (highest ever), Comm. Barn Owl 1 (1st one since 1972), Barred Owl 6 (10 year high), Downy Woodpecker - 355 (10 year high), Phoebe 227 (10 year high), Wh. br. Nuthatch 313 (10 year high), Winter Wren 20 (10 year high), Golden-cr. Kinglet 525 (10 year high), Bluebird 120 (10 year high), Hermit Thrush 28 (10 year high), N. Mockingbird 15 (10 Year high), Cedar Waxwing 35 (10 year low), House Finch 1268 (highest ever)

Sections and Observers: The compiler would like to thank all the section compilers and observers who made this count a success. In the list that follows, compilers names are underlined.

1. Fonthill, Ont.: Jerry Chapple
2. Thorold, Ont.: Gary Novosel
3. Wilson, N.Y.: Walter & Harriette Klabunde, Brett Ewald, Ralph Ewald, Ann Miranian, James Moreland, Susan Race, Alan & Lois Kraft, Donald Ruberson, Jane Richardson.
4. Middleport, N.Y.: Robert Brock, Marge Harwitz
5. Oak Orchard, N.Y.: Dick Christensen, Marion Smith, Charlotte Pratt, Bill Burch, Morgan Jones, Gail Seamans.
6. Port Maitland, Ont.: Ed Williams, Rick Stockton, David Mark, Marcya Foster, Robert Andrie, Joseph Thill, Arthur Schaffer.
7. Lowbanks, Ont.: Blaine Farnan, Jean Farnan.
8. Fort Erie, Ont.: Mike Zebehazy, Harold Axtell.
9. Grand Island, N.Y.: Karen Renning, Roberta McDonald, Edward Crohn, Mary Ann Stegmeice, Jack & Marge Wright.
10. Akron, N.Y.: Willie D'Anna, Betsy Potter, David Cooper, Patrick O'Donnell.
11. Buffalo, N.Y.: Tom Harper, Brad Lown, Ray Prybis, Stephen Saule, Kathy Hentz, Sharon Sisti, Charles Halvorsen.
12. Lancaster, N.Y.: Marie Wendling, Anna Bauer, Dorothy & Fred Danner, Ray Franz, Cy Wolfing, Tom Harper.
13. Batavia, N.Y.: George Mahony, Don Thureau, Robert & Eileen Hull.
14. Hamburg, N.Y.: Pam McNeil, Rod McNeil, Bob & Lucille Leonard, Barbara Walker, Marian Dornhaffer, Thelma Pickett, Mrs. John Hunley
15. Java, N.Y.: Bill Bogacki, Esther Becker, Olga Rosche.
16. Angola, N.Y.: Mike Turisk, Vivian Souden, Mary Ann Ganci.
17. Cattaraugus, N.Y.: Wavel & Maxine Barber.
18. Delevan, N.Y.: Don & Jane Clark.

19. Fillmore, N.Y.: Katherine Palmer & Larry Wilson, Donald Goodwell, Scott & Steve Herdman, Faye Clancy, Harland Hale, Ron Andrews, Gen Fish, L. & L. Higby, Marilyn Klaaren, Edna Marvin, Helen Morse, Mr. & Mrs. Roger Nicholson, Judy O'Banks, Jean Perry, Vesta Rice, M & E. Smith, Mr. & Mrs. R. J. Wilson, Mr. & Mrs. O. J. Williams
20. Dunkirk, N.Y.: Lake Erie Bird Club, Terry Mosher, Scott & Shirley Albough, Nancy Bowser, Dave & Kathy Bryant, Sylvia Clarke, Jeanine Flory, Joanne Goetz, Joe Gula, Jr., Robert Halsey, Grey Harper, Judy & Phil Kumler, Phyllis Macer, Terry Mahoney, Judy Mosher, Lucille Neveu, Robert Peterson, Robert Rand, Ari Richardson, Bev Ruska, John Ruska, Marty Sanden, Paul & Ruth Steese, Doug Udell, Doris & Tom Welch.
21. Cherry Creek, N.Y.: Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, John Cheney, David Dister, David Gagne, Julia Heilman, Frances Lapinski, Dorothy Pihlblad, Carol Roby, Susan Suckow.
22. Sherman, N.Y.: Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, David Dister, David Gagne, Frances Lapinski, Frances Rew, Lois Buck.
23. Frewsburg, N.Y.: Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Eileen Anderson, David Cooney, Jr., David Gagne, Christopher Maggio, Stephen Maggio, Joanne Nelson, William & Linda O'Brien, Jean Pigman, James & Shirlea Roman, Thomas Simmons.
24. Allegany S.P., N.Y.: David Cooney, Jr.
25. Allegany, N.Y.: Cattaraugus County Bird Club, Tim Baird, Lucille Bordonaro, Alene Church, Charles & Margaret Green, Regina, James, Meredith and Ardyth Van Scoy.
26. Cuba, N.Y.: Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Lou Burton, Mary Jordan, Bob & Bruce Smalley, Ann Scott, Betty & John Compton.
27. Bolivar, N.Y.: Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Doris Hurlburt, Don & Emma Lou King, Lillian & Stella Simons, George & Ruth Brown, Ray & Vivian Pitzrick, Betty Hooker, Frances De Groff, Sharon Baumgardner, Sid Genauz, Helen Apsey, Norman Ives, Helen Link
28. Alfred, N.Y.: Allegany County Bird Club, Vivian Pitzrick, Mrs. Bror Larson, Clarence Klingensmith, Carla Coch, Jim Copenheaver, Cynthia & Paul Culley, Ann & Robert Eisenhardt, Margaret Klingensmith, Ellen & Don Lamb, Kathy MacDonald, Mary & Allen Ormsby, Ruth Paige, Anne & Robert Pipal, Agnes Rhodes, Suzanne Wood, Russell Allen, Dorothy Bayless, Fred Bayless, Esther Biehl, Donald & Lorna Brink, Martha De La Vergne, Jay & Louise Gibson, Mildred Hayes, Nathan & Ellen Hardy, Fay & Ben Heller, Viola Ide, Ed & Marjorie Mason, Bob & Marjorie Mason, Linn Phelan, Violet & Charles Charrett, Allen & Gladys Witter, Kathy Kent, Mr. & Mrs. Ken McClure

Alfred, N.Y. cont. - Jim Ninos, Harold Ward, Roy Yarnell, Mallery & Mary Adams, Doris & Lou Burton, Cliff Button, Lloyd & Sandra Hotchkiss, Raymond Pitzrick, Vera Brown, Judson Browing, Roberta Clark, Dale & Evelyn Coats, Paul & Mary Alice Fuller, Marion Green, Claribel James, Ernst & Lynn Rositzke, Florence Tuttle, Theodore & Lorena Vossler, Mr. & Mrs. Blair Buckholz, Mrs. Ira Brown, Mr. & Mrs. Carl Burdick, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Cronauer, Mrs. Helen Graves, Davis & Ona Reynolds, Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Taggart, Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Taggart, Mr. & Mrs. William Thompson, Mr. Fred Wygant.

903 Broadway, Darien Center, N.Y. 14040

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Braddock Bay Field Trip, April 27, 1986

This year's trip to Braddock Bay, near Rochester, was attended by a group of about 25 observers. We also met other B.O.S. members at the lookout who were making preparations for an upcoming Big Day.

Although raptors are our main objective on this excursion, uncooperative weather pattern early in the day kept the hawks to a minimum. So, after our Genesee Ornithological Society leaders, Jean and Bill Dingerson, treated us to coffee and doughnut "holes", we set out in three groups to canvas the usual birding locations for migrants.

Bob Spahn led the majority of us first to a spot at the end of Manitou Beach Road. There were no waterfowl to speak of, but we had a small flight of sharp-shins and were delighted with an excellent view of a northern goshawk. Next we visited the site where a hawk-banding station has been in operation for a couple of years. We were fortunate to see an immature and an adult "sharpie" close up for comparison. We also searched for saw-whet owls on the way in to the banding site but were unsuccessful. More than 20 individual saw-whets were banded here this year.

The winds changed, fog rolled in, and we wondered if our day might be over sooner than expected. Luckily, this wasn't so. We cruised the local roads looking for wet areas that might attract shorebirds or that were "known" locations for other species. A cattle egret not seen by our group was spotted by one of the other groups. Brewer's blackbirds were discovered at a location where they appear every year now. This was a lifer for some and, therefore, especially rewarding. Presumably these members of the troupial family nest in the area, but I don't recall that there has been confirmation of this.

Braddock Bay Field Trip, cont.

In the woods at Island Cottage we had a few species of warbler, but no evidence of a recent flight. In the marsh next to the woods a trio of northern harriers caught the eye with a display of courtship or territorial aerobatics. Then it was back to the lookout to watch the sharpies and broad-wings dribble through.

From time to time we could see kettles of hawks moving through off to the west where some observers stationed. These birds, at a great distance from our location, would move in and out of the haze and most were presumed to be broad-wings. We decided to visit the spot as part of our return trip and arrived at the site only to discover that at that very moment the flight had dropped off dramatically. We were dismayed to learn, later, that while we remained at the Braddock Bay lookout, observers at this site tallied about 4,000 raptors in a one hour period. This included about 3,000 broad-wings and as many as 7 golden eagles. We tried chasing the kettles but never got close enough for the visual rewards we longed for.

The journey home included a stop at the administration building of the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge behind which we observed the nesting bald eagle pair trade places. Then, turning around and looking south across Casey Road, we managed to see a young great horned owl standing on the edge of its nest, turning its head from side to side.

The day ended at Cayuga Pool where we searched for new species and discussed the possibility of viewing Halley's Comet that night.

We tallied 97 species for the day, including 14 ducks, 12 raptors, and 9 shorebirds.

Mike Zebehazy, 1469 East Quaker Road, Orchard Park, N.Y. 14127

FROM FARTHER AFIELD

Roger Tory Peterson Institute Seeks Members

The Roger Tory Peterson Institute for the Study of Natural History began full-scale operations this year with the hiring of its first President, Dr. Harold D. Mahan, former director of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

The Institute, located in Jamestown, New York, near Lake Chautauqua, has been designated as the permanent repository for Roger Tory Peterson's artwork, correspondence, slides, movies, and other

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Peterson Institute, cont.

materials related to his remarkable lifetime achievements.

A \$5-million headquarters facility is currently being designed, with a mid-1988 opening projected. The building will contain permanent and temporary exhibit areas for wildlife art shows (RTP's and other artists), dramatic displays on world-wide natural history, a 400-seat auditorium with 70mm film-capability, an extensive natural history library, and research collections of natural history materials. The Institute's staff will eventually include 45 scientists, program coordinators, writers, and editors, with a mission of developing a high-quality, unique program of natural history experiences and publications on a world-wide scale. Ultimately, the Institute will have facilities and programs throughout the United States.

Early members will receive Field Guide to the Roger Tory Peterson Institute, a bi-monthly newsletter with articles on the progress of the Institute's construction, program development and trip announcements. All members will receive invitations to special events for groundbreaking and dedication of the RTPI building, and notification of Institute programs across the U. S.

Information about the Institute and its membership program may be obtained by writing: Roger Tory Peterson Institute, 525 Falconer Street, Jamestown, NY 14701. (716) 665-5220 ext. 448, or 665-3794.

Fall Classes, Hikes, Tours and Events

A Fall call to Nature lovers! Starting in September the Buffalo Museum of Science will offer a wide variety of programs. Continuing Education evening and Saturday morning classes for adults range from classes designed to develop a new hobby to those of a more scientific or technical nature. Tempting topics such as Wild Mushrooms, Woodcarving, Endangered Species, Astronomy, Computers, Ferns, Indians of New York State, Buffalo Architecture, Geology and more, can be yours. Special outdoor programs include Nature for Little Folks, Bird and Wildflower Walks, even Wilderness Camping and a "Herkimer Diamond" Dig. Information and brochures are only a phone call away. Call the Education Dept. at 896-5200 to put yourself in touch with the natural sciences.

Lorraine Tesmer
Administrator of Education

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Please note the following address changes:

Marc Chelmer
MIT-14 - Bldg. E38-420
292 Main Street
Cambridge, Mass. 02139

Dave Wilcove
1400 Eye Street NW
Washington, D. C. 20005

In Memoriam: William G. Meyer

Funeral services were held on May 27, 1986 for William G. Meyer who joined B.O.S. in 1948 and became an active member in 1971.

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

- Sept. 10: Summer Birding experiences of members. Share your interesting experiences, slides and anecdotes with fellow members. Up to a 10 minute presentation would be desirable to allow time for all those wishing to relive summer again.
- Sept. 24: Fall Warblers. The fall migration of warblers is a most fascinating as well as a difficult and sporting proposition. In the fall, they all hug the thickets closely and when flushed out, they dart to the nearest thicket and disappear, permitting only the briefest flash of size, shape and color. The inexperienced are hopelessly confused. Bob Brock will help us take some of the confusion out of confusing fall warblers.
- Oct. 8: Program will be announced later.
- Oct. 22: Gordon R. Batchellor, Sr. Wildlife Biologist, Bureau of Wildlife, Region 9 will discuss the results of the first year's survey of common terns in Buffalo Harbor and Niagara River. The talk will include population surveys, nesting success, evaluation of habitat and management possibilities.

Meetings, cont.

For further information, contact Dick Christensen, Program Committee Chairman (632-7762).

FIELD TRIPS

- Sept. 12-14: Friday - Sunday. Hawk Cliff for raptor migration. This is one of the best locations in North America. It is 150 miles west of Buffalo in Ontario. The St. Thomas Naturalists Club will be banding and displaying hawks. Contact Bill Burch (773-3690) for motel reservations and details.
- Sept. 20-21: Saturday-Sunday. Presque Isle (Sat.) and Pymatuning (Sun.) weekend. For dinner and motel reservations call Mary Saville (662-5215). Even a one day trip to Presque Isle, near Erie, Pa. 80 miles from Buffalo is well worthwhile for fall migrants.
- Oct. 12: Sunday. October bird count. For a territory call the compiler: Ellen Schopp (877-3686).
- Oct. 19: Sunday. Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Transitown Plaza by Citibank (Main St. east of Transit) or at 9:30 a.m. at Cayuga Pool overlook. Leader: Dick Christensen (632-7762).

Usually these trips take most of a day so a lunch should be brought. For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690), Grand Island, N.Y.

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-a-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Dr. Extension, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, N.Y. 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$10.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of
The Prothonotary was provided by the following
people:

Pat Cordaro (Printing)
Barbara Halvorsen (Typing)
Brad Lown (Mailing)

Editorial Board: Wavel Barber
Marian Dornhaffer
Bradley Lown
Julia Wells

EDITOR: Charles Halvorsen
9 Yale Place
Buffalo, N.Y. 14210
(716) 826-9247

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of
the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS, INC.



1986 ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR SARATOGA SPRINGS

Plans are well underway for the 1986 annual meeting of the Federation in Saratoga Springs from Friday, October 31st to Sunday, November 2nd. Hosting the 39th annual meeting is the Capital District's own Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club. This is the fifth Federation annual meeting in which HMBC has been a participant, with the previous meetings in 1952, 1957, 1962 and 1977.

All events will be at the Gideon Putnam Hotel set in the Saratoga Spa State Park. Meetings, meals, the Saturday night banquet, the Federation Council of delegates meeting, papers session, and workshops will all be right on the premises.

Chairman for the meeting is William J. Lee, past president of HMBC and an active member of the Federation.

Banquet speaker will be Peter Dunne, author of "Tales of a Low Rent Naturalist", naturalist-director of the Cape May Bird Observatory of New Jersey, and editor of New Jersey Audubon Magazine.

Field trips will feature water in its various guises, with trips to Saratoga Lake, Cohoes Falls, and Vischer Ferry's marshes planned. A special highlight will be a field trip to see a year-round feeding/banding operation in the Adirondacks.

Workshops on a diverse set of topics are being planned, and are expected to include hawk identification, birding optics, and plans for a proposed state-wide birding project.

Persons desiring to present papers at the papers session should write to Kenneth Able, Department of Biology, S.U.N.Y. at Albany, Albany, New York 12222.

Questions regarding any aspect of the meeting should be addressed to William J. Lee, 2171 Grand Blvd., Schenectady, New York 12309.

RESERVATION FORM
FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS

Annual Meeting Oct. 31 - Nov. 2, 1986

Host: Hudson Mohawk Bird Club, Albany, Schenectady, Troy, New York

Meetings, registration and housing are at the Gideon Putnam Hotel and Conference Center, Saratoga Spa Park, Saratoga Springs, New York.

Pre-registration: Due in Ballston Lake, Monday, September 29. After that date, rooms cannot be held.

REGISTRATION FEE, per person.....	\$15.00*	<u>Total</u>
* Early bird discount, if paid by August 30.....	12.50	
* Student rate.....	7.50	\$ _____

HOUSING AND MEAL--PACKAGE RATES, FULL AMERICAN PLAN

Includes: Room for Friday and Saturday; Reception and
Dinner Friday, Breakfast Lunch and Banquet
Saturday, Brunch or Box Lunch on Sunday

() Single \$138.00		
() Double 208.00 (\$104.00 per person)		\$ _____

ROOMS FOR ONE NIGHT, FULL AMERICAN PLAN	Friday _____	Saturday _____	
() Single @ \$69.00	() Double @ \$104.00	(\$52.00 per person)	\$ _____

MEALS ONLY (for those not making room reservations)

() Friday dinner	\$16.25 x no. of persons _____	=	\$ _____
() Saturday lunch	\$10.50 x no. of persons _____	=	\$ _____
() Saturday banquet	\$20.00 x no. of persons _____	=	\$ _____

Breakfast is available to non-guests in the Gideon Putnam's dining room which opens at 7:00 a.m. Sat., 7:30 a.m. Sun.

TOTAL DUE \$ _____

If you have no one to share a double room, and are willing to have us assign someone, please check here _____.

Do you smoke? _____ Non-smoker? _____ Doesn't matter _____

Do you want information on campsites or alternative lodging? _____

Make check payable to: HMBC - Annual Meeting
and mail with Reservation Form, to reach us by September 29 to:

Dr. Bernard Grossman, Treasurer
RD 3, Maple Ave.
Ballston Lake, NY 12019

Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope or post card, if confirmation of reservation is desired.

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____				
Last	First	Initial	Name for Name Tag	

Address _____	Telephone () _____
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Are you a delegate? _____ Club _____

Name and address of roommate, if double room reservation:



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1986

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ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 52

JUNE 1986

NUMBER 6

THE MONTH

Following a chilly first three days, May was a pleasant, warm month with an average temperature of 59.7° (F), 3.6° above normal. Precipitation measured 4.42 inches, 1.53 inches above average but mostly in intermittent rainfall totaling 3.41 inches on May 19th. 55% of possible sunshine for the period was recorded with 16 days reaching the 70 degree mark or better. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

There were many exciting observations on the Niagara Frontier in May but the bird of the month was an adult American Oystercatcher discovered by Jeanine and Bill Flory on May 23rd. At 5:00 p.m. on that date, they were scanning the right breakwall of Barcelona Harbor on Lake Erie in the Town of Westfield when they immediately spotted this large, unmistakable shorebird standing among a few gulls at the edge of the breakwall. The black head with the large orange-red bill, brown mantle, white wing bar and white underparts were all clearly seen. The Oystercatcher was seen by most active field observers in Chautauqua County and many other bird-watchers before taking its leave several days later. It is only the second record of its occurrence in our study area.

Bob Brock's excellent summary of the Society's May Bird Count appears elsewhere in these pages but mention will be made in this column of some of the unusual species reported on that date. During the B.O.S. field trip of May 25th along the north shore of Lake Erie, a record 106 Double-crested Cormorants were counted on Mohawk Island offshore from Rock Point Provincial Park. Great Egrets continued in residence at Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge and the adjacent wetlands of the State Wildlife Management Area in May with

Don Endres seeing four there on the 25th. At 7:30 a.m. on May 17th, Endres made a more exciting observation, two Snowy Egrets feeding at the edge of cattails in the shallows of a water impoundment on the feeder road near N.Y. Route #77 in the Tonawanda WMA. These birds were in the company of a Great Egret and several Great Blue Herons offering excellent size comparison and other morphological differences. Endres clearly saw the diagnostic yellow feet and black bills of adult Snowy Egrets. They also exhibited the 'foot shuffling' feeding technique characteristic of this species. A few hours later, one Snowy Egret was seen at this location by Willie D'Anna and his party.

On May 9th, Terry Mosher, Bruce Chilton and a group of Chautauqua County bird-watchers were scanning a grassy marsh at King and Center Roads in the Town of Sheridan where they saw a small heron in mottled, grayish-white plumage feeding in the shallow water where it moved "slowly and deliberately" searching for frogs. Breeding plumes, still quite short, were developing on the bird's head and Mosher and Chilton concluded that they were looking at a second-year, sub-adult Little Blue Heron; the blackish-blue bill and dull green colored legs confirmed the identification. On May 18th, during the B.O.S. bird count, Jeanine and Bob Flory were searching for birds in a marshy area adjacent to the Berry Road in the Town of Pomfret where they saw a small heron standing on vegetation. This bird, with slate-blue plumage, a maroon colored head and neck and bluish-gray bill was immediately identified as an adult Little Blue Heron. Later on this date, Audrey Schafer of Dunkirk visited the Canadaway Creek Bird Sanctuary on Temple Road in the Town of Pomfret where she saw a second Little Blue Heron feeding in the shallows of the creek.

Bob Andrie reported a very late raptor migration on May 26th. On that date he counted 28 Turkey Vultures and 15 immature Broad-winged Hawks flying over the Town of Eden. Earlier in the month, the anticipated 'blessed event' at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge took place on the 14th with the birth of two young to the pair of Bald Eagles who constructed a nest in the woods behind the Administration Building on Casey Road in the Town of Shelby. The event has special significance as the parent birds were themselves brought to New York State as fledglings from Alaska and hatched at the refuge where, as hoped, they returned as sub-adults and now fulfill their role as seed stock in the reintroduction of this species as a breeding, permanent resident in New York State. It is only the second successful nesting of these pioneer birds, the first being a pair in Jefferson County which successfully brooded young in 1983.

King Rails were also among the rarities seen (or heard) in our study area this May. On the morning of May 7th, Dave Dister heard the "tsuck, tsuck, tsuck" call of a rail in the cattails and sedges of a marshy area in the Burgeson Sanctuary on the Riverside Road in the Town of Kiantone in Chautauqua County. After imitating the call for several minutes, Dister was able to lure a large rail into view. The buff color of the throat, neck and breast and the dark head and streaked back of the bird identified it as a King Rail which oblig-

ingly remained in view for ten minutes. At 2:30 a.m. on May 17th, Willie D'Anna and his party heard a rail calling from the cattails in a marsh on the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area in the Town of Alabama in Genesee County. The bird responded to a taped call of a King Rail, answering approximately ten times in an identical sound which was noticeably lower in pitch than the call of the common Virginia Rail frequently heard in this location. Although the rail was not seen, D'Anna is positive that the similarity of the taped call and the response identified the caller as a King Rail.

The record number of Purple Sandpipers seen among the rocks of the Goat Island shoreline at the Niagara Reservation State Park increased on May 4th when Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter saw eight, all resplendent in breeding plumage. The same observers saw five Purple Sandpipers at this location on the Society's May Bird Count. The annual B.O.S. field trip on the last Sunday of May along the Canadian shore of Lake Erie is traditionally known as "The Whimbrel Trip" as its main objective is to glimpse a flock or two of these handsome curlews at the height of their brief spring passage through our study area enroute to their Arctic breeding grounds. This year, the trip failed to yield any Whimbrels and the only record of this species being observed in May was a verbal report received at the Museum of Science of two birds at Morgan's Point, Ontario on the 18th. A similar verbal report of two Willets seen at Morgan's Point on May 3rd was also received at the Museum.

Acadian Flycatchers continue to be reported in the Southern Tier this spring. On May 11th, Terry Mosher heard the unmistakable 'pit seet' song of a male Acadian Flycatcher in a wet woodlot at the State University College at Fredonia summer camp in the Town of Portland in Chautauqua County where this species has been heard and seen with regularity since 1981. While that bird was not seen, Mosher saw a second male Acadian Flycatcher in a Maple-Beech woods with a heavy undergrowth on Sage Road in the Town of Pomfret, a new location for this flycatcher in Chautauqua County. The location reflected the usual habitat preference of the species, a deep broadleaf woodland with Hemlocks bordering a gorge with a flowing brook or creek. Mention has been made of the interesting birds Willie D'Anna reported on May 17th. It was the occasion of a 'big day' in which D'Anna and four other stalwarts were in the field for a 24 hour period and netted 166 species in a territory encompassing Western New York and part of the Niagara Peninsula of Ontario. At dusk they found themselves in a Maple-Beech-Hemlock woods in the Town of Red House in Allegany State Park where one of their number, Dave Gagne, identified the 'pit seet' song of the Acadian Flycatcher repeated perhaps a dozen times. Again, the bird was in a location near a running brook with overhanging trees.

Among the interesting parulids reported in May was an adult male Lawrence's Warbler discovered in full song in an area of heavy undergrowth and shrubs on the West Perimeter Road in the Town of Cold Spring in Cattaraugus County on May 10th by Terry Mosher and a large party of bird-watchers. The bird was singing the characteristic

"the buzzy, wheezy" primary song of the Golden-winged Warbler. On May 24th, Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter repeated their 1984 feat of locating a Yellow-throated Warbler near Science Lake in the Allegany State Park in the Town of Red House. The warbler, an adult male in breeding plumage, was located in a Red Pine grove near the park road in the approximate location where the breeding pair of Yellow-throated Warblers was found in 1984. The gray mantle and forehead, black cheek patch, bright yellow chin and throat were all clearly visible. This bird or a second male of this species was seen again by Bob Brock and several other observers on May 31st. On May 25th, Bob Andrie and Art Schaffner were searching the thickets and shrubs along the western perimeter of Rock Point Provincial Park in the Town of Dunnville, Ontario for passerine migrants when they noticed an olive-green warbler foraging at the base of a large shrub. The pale gray hood with white eye-ring and yellow underparts identified the bird as a male Connecticut Warbler, a very rare spring migrant.

On May 13th, three Monroe County bird-watchers, Carolyn Cass, Nancy Boudrie and Martha Reinhardt were on a field trip at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. At the Schoolhouse Marsh, they heard an unfamiliar 'buzzy' song issuing from a brushy thicket which they tentatively identified as that of a Clay-colored Sparrow. Ms. Reinhardt played a taped call of this species and the bird flew into view. It was indeed a male Clay-colored Sparrow identified by the distinctive white facial triangle and narrow white median stripe on its head.

It would appear the Orchard Oriole is establishing itself as a breeding summer resident in southwestern New York. On May 10th, Terry Mosher and his party had excellent views of an adult male Orchard Oriole in a large spruce tree in the yard of a residence on the Pierce Run Road in the Town of South Valley in Cattaraugus County and a second male in an evergreen grove on the Onoville Road in that township. Both locations are documented, previous breeding locations. On May 17th, Jeanine Flory saw an adult male Orchard Oriole in the top branches of an evergreen tree in her yard on Berry Road in the Town of Pomfret where she has observed this species each spring and summer for the past few years.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Ave., Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

MAY 1986 NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the "Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario" (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
 F - Indicates first record for the migration.
 L - Indicates last record for the migration.
 (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Common Loon	May	1	1	Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
"	"	1	1	Amity Lake	V&R Pitzrick
"	"	9,23L	1,1	Allegany S.P.	Elderkins
"	"	10	1	Cold Spring Twp.	Mosher et al
"	"	23L	3	Allegany Resvoir.	Elderkins
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	25	90	Rock Point P.P.	D'Anna(BOS)
American Bittern	"	13	1	Cuba Marsh	Pitzrick
"	"	17	1	Burgeson WS	Dister
Least Bittern	"	24	1	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
Great Egret	"	4	25	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	11	1	Times Beach, BF.	O'Dell
"	"	17,19	1	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
"	"	24	2	Tonawanda WMA	Hess
*Snowy Egret	"	17	2	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
"	"	17	1	Tonawanda WMA	D'Anna et al
*Little Blue Heron	"	9 (imm.)	1	Sheridan Twp.	Chilton, Mosher et al
"	"	18(adult)	1	Pomfret Twp.	J&W Flory
Green-b. Heron	"	7	1	Wellsville	D&L Burton
Northern Pintail	"	31L	1	Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
Northern Shoveler	"	10	7	Tonawanda WMA	Hess
"	"	31	1	Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
Gadwall	"	24	2	Tonawanda WMA	Hess
Ring-necked Duck	"	17	1	Dunkirk Harbor	D'Anna et al
Oldsquaw	"	17	1	Canadaway Crk.	NS Dister et al
Surf Scoter	"	9L	2	E. Aurora	Becker
Common Merganser	"	1-22	1-8	Amity Lake	Pitzrick et al
Turkey Vulture	"	26	28	Eden	Andrle
Osprey	"	26	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
(Latest report - 7 other records.)					
Bald Eagle	"	3 (imm.)	1	Hamburg Twp.	Andrle
"	"	4 (imm.)	1	Pomfret Twp.	D'Anna et al
"	"	9(adult)	1	Allegany Resvoir.	Elderkins
"	"	10 (imm.)	1	Cold Spring Twp.	Mosher et al
Northern Harrier	"	13	2	Cuba Marsh	Pitzrick
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	12	1	Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
Cooper's Hawk	"	7-31	1-2	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	18	1	Morgan's Pt., Ont.	Andrle
Broad-w. Hawk	"	26	15	Eden	Andrle
*King Rail	"	7	1	Burgeson WS	Dister
Sora	"	3	1	Tifft Farm NP	Hess
*Black-b. Plover	"	15F, 17, 22	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher et al
*Am. Oystercatcher	"	23	1	Barcelona Hbr.	J&W Flory
"	"	24	1	Barcelona Hbr.	Moshers, Hiller
"	"	27	1	Barcelona Hbr.	Hess
Greater Yellowlegs	"	7	25	Wellsville	Burtions, Larson

Vol. 52, No. 6 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Lesser Yellowlegs	May	7	10	Wellsville	Burtons, Larson
*Solitary Sandpiper	"	3F	2	Arkwright Twp.	Mosher et al
"	"	4	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	6	3	Eden	Andrle
"	"	7	6	Wellsville	Burtons, Larson
Spotted Sandpiper	"	4	2	Chautauqua Lake	D'Anna et al
*Upland Sandpiper	"	9F	1	Kiantone Twp.	Dister
"	"	12	2	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	17	1	Chautauqua Twp.	Mosher et al
*Ruddy Turnstone	"	17F	2	Ellery Twp.	Dister et al
*Least Sandpiper	"	4F	3	Burgeson WS	D'Anna et al
"	"	10	4	Burgeson WS	Mosher et al
*W.-rump. Sandpiper	"	17F	1	Tifft Farm NP	Hess
"	"	24	1	Kiantone Twp.	Dister
Pectoral Sandpiper	"	9	1	Sheridan Twp.	Mosher et al
"	"	10	1	Burgeson WS	Mosher et al
Purple Sandpiper	"	4, 7	8, 8	Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
Dunlin	"	4	6	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	17, 22	3, 3	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher et al
"	"	21	1	Wellsville	D&L Burton
Caspian Tern	"	17	1	Chautauqua Lake	D'Anna et al
*Black Tern	"	7F	1	Burgeson WS	Dister
"	"	25	3	Rock Point PP	D'Anna (BOS)
*Black-b. Cuckoo	"	13F-18	1-2	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher, Mahoney
"	"	14-31	1-6	Amity Twp.	V&R Pitzrick
*Common Nighthawk	"	17F	1	Ellery Twp.	D'Anna et al
"	"	26	1	Jamestown	Elderkins
*Ruby-t. Hummingb.	"	6F	1	Forest Lwn, Bf.	Hess
"	"	7-31	1-4	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	3	1	Tifft Farm NP	Hess
"	"	3	1	Hamburg Twp.	Andrle
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	1, 8, 15	1, 1, 1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	7	1	Springville	O'Dell
"	"	10, 24	1, 1	Iroquois NWR	Hess
"	"	18	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Olive-s. Flycatcher	"	25	1	Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
*E. Wood Pewee	"	13F	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	"	19-31	1-4	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Yellow-b. Flycatcher	"	25F	1	Rock Point PP	D'Anna (BOS)
"	"	26	1	Ft. Niagara SP	D'Anna, Potter
*Acadian Flycatcher	"	7F	1	Zoar Valley	O'Dell
"	"	11	1	Portland Twp.	Mosher et al
"	"	17	1	Allegany SP	D'Anna et al
"	"	24 (PDBA)	4	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher et al
"	"	30	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher et al
*Alder Flycatcher	"	16F-31	1-9	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	18	3	Iroquois NWR	Endres
*Willow Flycatcher	"	17F	1	Point Gratiot	Mosher et al
"	"	17F	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher et al
"	"	17F	1	Tifft Farm NP	Hess, O'Dell
"	"	17F	1	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
Eastern Kingbird	"	1	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick

Tufted Titmouse	May	1-31	2-4	Amity Lake	Pitzrick, Adams
	"	8, 19	1	Silver Creek	Neveu
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	2	1	Silver Creek	Neveu
	"	5	1	Orchard Park	O'Dell
	"	24	2	Holland Bog	O'Dell
Winter Wren	"	7	1	Carroll Twp.	Elderkins
*Sedge Wren	"	22F-30	2-3	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher et al
*Marsh Wren	"	10F	1	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
	"	11	1	Tifft Farm NP	D'Anna(BOS)
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	"	26L	1	Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-31	44	Amity&Ward Twps.	Pitzrick
	"	1-31	4	Pomfret Twp.	Flory
*Veery	"	5F	1	Wheatfield Twp.	Potter
	"	12	1	Carroll Twp.	Elderkins
*Gray-ch. Thrush	"	16F, 27	2, 1	Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
Gray Catbird	"	1	2	Tifft Farm NP	D'Anna
N. Mockingbird	"	17	1	Point Gratiot	Mosher et al
Water Pipit	"	3	30	Arkwright Twp.	Mosher et al
	"	4, 5	15-20	Wales	Rosche
	"	10L	95	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
*Yellow-thr. Vireo	"	17F	1	Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
*Philadelphia Vireo	"	10F	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	24	2	Times Bch, Bf.	Andrie
*Red-eyed Vireo	"	11F	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	"	12	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Blue-w. Warbler	"	2-31	2-8	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Golden-w. Warbler	"	10F	2-3	Cold Spring Twp.	Mosher et al
	"	14	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*"Brewster's Warb."	"	17	1	Tonawanda WMA	Potter
*"Lawrence's Warb."	"	10	1	Cold Spring Twp.	Mosher et al
*Tennessee Warbler	"	9F-20	6-10	Wales	Rosche
	"	10	2	Cold Spring Twp.	Mosher et al
*Orange-cr. Warbler	"	15F	1	Goat Island	Potter
*Northern Parula	"	11F	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
*Chestnut-s. Warbler	"	7F	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	7F	1	Goat Island	D'Anna
*Magnolia Warbler	"	6F	1	Forest Lwn., Bf.	Hess, Schaffner
	"	10-31	1-4	Amity, Scio&Ward Twps.	Pitzrick
*Cape May Warbler	"	6F	1	Tifft Farm NP	D'Anna, Potter
	"	11	2	Tifft Farm NP	D'Anna(BOS)
*Bl.-thr. Blue Warb.	"	11F	2	Tifft Farm NP	D'Anna(BOS)
	"	24	1	Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
*Blackburnian Warb.	"	5F	1	Wheatfield Twp.	Potter
	"	10	1	Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
*Yellow-thr. Warbler	"	24	1	Allegany SP	D'Anna, Potter
	"	31	1	Allegany SP	Brock
*Prairie Warbler	"	14F, 19, 26, 28, 29	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	(PDBA)			
	"	17	5	Carroll Twp.	D'Anna et al
	"	24, 26, 30	1, 2, 2	Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
		(PDBA)			

Vol. 52, No. 6 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Palm Warbler	May	3	9 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
*Bay-br. Warbler	"	11F	1 Tifft Farm NP	D'Anna (BOS)
	"	19	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Blackpoll Warbler	"	17F	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	21	3 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Cerulean Warbler	"	7F	1 Goat Island	D'Anna
	"	10	2 Iroquois NWR	Hess
American Redstart	"	3	1 Burgeson WS	Dister et al
*Prothonotary Warb.	"	31	2 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
Ovenbird	"	3	1 Arkwright Twp.	Mosher et al
*Northern Waterthrush	"	1F	1 Tifft Farm NP	D'Anna
	"	7	2 Springville	O'Dell
*Connecticut Warbler	"	25	1 Rock Point PP	Andrie, Schaffner
*Mourning Warbler	"	7F	1 Orchard Park	O'Dell
	"	9-23	2-4 Wales	Rosche
	"	10	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
*Common Yellowthroat	"	4F	1 Canadaway Crk. NS	D'Anna et al
	"	6	1 Fredonia	Mosher
	"	6-31	1-8 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Hooded Warbler	"	15F	2 Wales	Rosche
*Wilson's Warbler	"	15F	1 Tifft Farm NP	D'Anna
*Canada Warbler	"	11F	1 Portland Twp.	Mosher et al
*Yellow-br. Chat	"	7F-31	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	24	2 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher et al
*Scarlet Tanager	"	6F	1 Forest Lwn, Bf.	Hess, Schaffner
	"	6F-31	1-3 Amity & Ward Twps.	Pitzrick
Rose-br. Grosbeak	"	1-4	1 Pomfret Twp. (f)	Mosher
*Indigo Bunting	"	14F	1 Pomfret Twp.	Flory
	"	14F-31	1-7 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Clay-color. Sparrow	"	13	1 Iroquois NWR	Cass
Vesper Sparrow	"	14	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	15, 22	2, 1 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher, Chilton
Grasshopper Sparrow	"	15-24	2-5 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher et al
	"	18-31	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	31	1 Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
*Henslow's Sparrow	"	15F-30	1-5 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher et al
	"	18-31	2-4 Iroquois NWR	Endres
*Lincoln's Sparrow	"	6F	1 Forest Lwn., Bf.	Hess, Schaffner
	"	6F, 7	1 Wheatfield Twp.	Potter
	"	25L	1 Rock Point PP	D'Anna (BOS)
White-cr. Sparrow	"	1	3 Belmont	D&L Burton
*Bobolink	"	1F	1 Scio	Pitzrick
	"	1F	1 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	"	3	1 Burgeson WS	Dister et al
*Orchard Oriole	"	10F	1 S. Valley Twp.	Mosher et al
	"	17	1 S. Valley Twp.	D'Anna et al
*Northern Oriole	"	1F-31	1-8 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	6-31	1-4 Belmont	D&L Burton
Purple Finch	"	6 reports throughout the region.		

Pine Siskin	May	1-5	1-2 Pomfret Twp.(f)	Moshers
"	"	11-30	2-10 Silver Creek	Neveu
"	"	14,16	1,1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Evening Grosbeak	"	1-12	20-25 Belmont	D&L Burton
"	"	1-14	20-60 Wales	Rosche
"	"	5-10	2-6 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	13-20L	1-2 Belmont	D&L Burton

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....	182
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue	
including 12 on count and 1 from April.....	73
Total for year.....	255

(PDBA) = Previously documented breeding area.

ERRATUM

Prothonotary, vol. 52:2, p.22

Red-headed Wdpkr. January 1 1 Scio Pitzrick
should be: Red-bellied Wdpkr.

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Report of the May Bird Count

Date: May 18, 1986

Compiler: Robert W. Brock

Weather: The temperature was reported in a range from 65 degrees(F) to 84 degrees. It was partly cloudy to cloudy with showers and thunder showers on the Lake Erie shore in the late afternoon.

Compilation: Following is a list of species recorded on the count and the number of each. Underlined names indicate that acceptable written verifications were received. Species reported in three or fewer sections are marked with the B.O.S. section in parentheses.

Loons - Ducks

Common Loon - 16	American Black Duck - 14
Pied-billed Grebe - 14	Mallard - 737
Horned Grebe - 1 (21)	Blue-winged Teal - 41
Double-crest. Cormorant - 68	Northern Shoveler - 2 (10)
American Bittern - 5 (19,24)	Gadwall - 13 (2,10,13)
*Least Bittern - 1F (7)	American Wigeon - 14 (2,9,11)
Great Blue Heron - 280	Canvasback - 1 (7)
Great Egret - 8	Redhead - 1 (20)
<u>Little Blue Heron</u> - 2 (20)	Ring-necked Duck - 1L (20)

Loons-ducks, cont.

*Cattle Egret - 1 (7)	Oldsquaw - 1L(20)
Green-backed Heron - 46	Bufflehead - 2 (24)
Black-cr. Night Heron - 9	Hooded Merganser - 8 (10,13,19)
Tundra Swan - 1 (14)	Common Merganser - 14
Canada Goose - 872	Red-breasted Merganser - 6 (9,20)
Wood Duck - 154	

Vultures - Cranes

Turkey Vulture - 177	American Kestrel - 175
Osprey - 12	Ring-necked Pheasant - 33
Bald Eagle - 2 (10,23)	Ruffed Grouse - 74
Northern Harrier - 16	Wild Turkey - 36
Sharp-shinned Hawk - 22	Virginia Rail - 7 (7,22)
Cooper's Hawk - 5 (7, 19)	Sora - 6 (7,10,20)
Red-shouldered Hawk - 19	Common Moorhen - 26
Broad-winged Hawk - 35	American Coot - 11
Red-tailed Hawk - 126	

Shore Birds

Black-bellied Plover - 1 (20)	Ruddy Turnstone - 7 (7,8)
*Semipalmated Plover - 26F	*Semipalmated Sandpiper - 27F(1,7)
Killdeer - 538	Least Sandpiper - 80
Greater Yellowlegs - 15	White-rumped Sandpiper - 6 (1,7)
Lesser Yellowlegs - 24	Pectoral Sandpiper - 20
Solitary Sandpiper - 20	Purple Sandpiper - 5L (9)
Spotted Sandpiper - 87	Dunlin - 91
Upland Sandpiper - 8 (14,16,19)	*Short-b. Dowitcher - 16F (1,7,10)
*Whimbrel - 2F (7)	Common Snipe - 13
	American Woodcock - 25

Gulls - Flycatchers

Bonaparte's Gull - 3 (9,24)	Ruby-thr. Hummingbird - 115
Ring-billed Gull - 4680	Belted Kingfisher - 105
Herring Gull - 123	Red-headed Woodpecker - 36
Great Black-back. Gull - 10	Red-bellied Woodpecker - 30
Caspian Tern - 5 (20,25)	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 23
Common Tern - 14	Downy Woodpecker - 152
Black Tern - 7 (1,10)	Hairy Woodpecker - 48
Rock Dove - 899	Northern Flicker - 259
Mourning Dove - 1027	Pileated Woodpecker - 32
Black-billed Cuckoo - 87	*Olive-sided Flycatcher - 1F (20)
*Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 9F	Eastern Wood-Pewee - 144
Eastern Screech Owl - 2 (7,20)	Alder Flycatcher - 22
Great Horned Owl - 17	Willow Flycatcher - 68
Barred Owl - 10	Least Flycatcher - 213
Common Nighthawk - 32	Eastern Phoebe - 228
*Whip-poor-will - 2F (7)	Great Crested Flycatcher - 231
Chimney Swift - 222	Eastern Kingbird - 498

Larks - Thrushes

Horned Lark - 3 (1,22,23)
Horned Lark E.a. praticola - 27
(13,20)
Purple Martin - 477
Tree Swallow - 1322
N. Rough-wing. Swallow - 190
Bank Swallow - 766
Cliff Swallow - 102
Barn Swallow - 1757
Blue Jay - 1094
American Crow - 1228
Black-capped Chickadee - 540
Tufted Titmouse - 29
Red-breasted Nuthatch - 8
White-breasted Nuthatch - 105
Brown Creeper - 8
House Wren - 396

Winter Wren - 2 (20,22)
Marsh Wren - 16
Golden-crowned Kinglet - 18
Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 4 (8,20)
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 28
Eastern Bluebird - 166
Veery - 126
Gray-cheeked Thrush - 5
*Swainson's Thrush - 19F
Hermit Thrush - 29
Wood Thrush - 390
American Robin - 5704
Gray Catbird - 725
Northern Mockingbird - 12
Brown Thrasher - 66

Waxwings - Warblers

Cedar Waxwing - 378
European Starling - 4759
*White-eyed Vireo - 3F (5,9)
Solitary Vireo - 27
Yellow-throated Vireo - 33
Warbling Vireo - 176
Philadelphia Vireo - 2 (28)
Red-eyed Vireo - 384
Blue-winged Warbler - 184
Golden-winged Warbler - 14
Tennessee Warbler - 106
Orange-crowned Warbler - 1(14)
Nashville Warbler - 33
Northern Parula - 4 (9,10,14)
Yellow Warbler - 1607
Chestnut-sided Warbler - 182
Magnolia Warbler - 89
Cape May Warbler - 9
Black-thr. Blue Warbler - 15
Yellow-rumped Warbler - 80

Black-thr. Green Warbler - 111
Blackburnian Warbler - 57
Pine Warbler - 1 (5)
Prairie Warbler - 16
Palm Warbler - 3 (7,13)
Bay-breasted Warbler - 26
Blackpoll Warbler - 27
Cerulean Warbler - 37
Black & white Warbler - 12
American Redstart - 339
Ovenbird - 221
Northern Waterthrush - 21
Louisiana Waterthrush - 10
*Kentucky Warbler - 1 (24)
Mourning Warbler - 42
Common Yellowthroat - 743
Hooded Warbler - 60
Wilson's Warbler - 5 (20,23,28)
Canada Warbler - 31
Yellow-breasted Chat - 8 (20,23,28)

Tanagers - House Sparrows

Scarlet Tanager - 171
Northern Cardinal - 520
Rose-breasted Grosbeak - 414
Indigo Bunting - 341
Rufous-sided Towhee - 184
Chipping Sparrow - 719
Field Sparrow - 229

Dark-eyed Junco - 106
Bobolink - 1147
Red-winged Blackbird - 6484
Eastern Meadowlark - 315
Rusty Blackbird - 1 (28)
Common Grackle - 5394
Brown-headed Cowbird - 735

Tanagers - House Sparrows, cont.

Vesper Sparrow - 17	Orchard Oriole - 1 (20)
Savannah Sparrow - 193	Northern Oriole - 861
Grasshopper Sparrow - 28	Purple Finch - 143
Henslow's Sparrow - 5 (20)	House Finch - 768
Song Sparrow - 1342	Pine Siskin - 36
Lincoln's Sparrow - 1 (11)	American Goldfinch - 1723
Swamp Sparrow - 120	Evening Grosbeak - 148
White-throated Sparrow - 64	House Sparrow - 2149
White-crowned Sparrow - 23	

Total Species - 201

Total Individuals - 62,981

The compiler thanks each of the Section Compilers and their observers for the fine work in conducting the 1986 May Bird Count and submitting census reports and verification reports.

Sections and observers: In the list that follows, compilers' names are underlined.

1. Fonthill, Ont.: Robert Andrie, Richard Byron, Barbara Tomasi
2. Thorold, Ont.: Gary Novosel
3. Wilson, N.Y.: Harriette & Walter Klabunde, Ralph & Brett Ewald, Institute for Study of Nature Ornithological Society.
4. Middleport, N.Y.: Robert Brock, William Watson
5. Oak Orchard, N.Y.: Richard Christensen, Peggy Christensen, Charlotte Pratt, Marion Smith, William Vaughan & class, Gail Seamans
6. Port Maitland, Ont.: No Report - compiler Ed Williams was ill.
7. Lowbanks, Ont.: Drew Campbell
8. Fort Erie, Ont.: Edward Crohn, Mary Ann Stegmeier
9. Grand Island, NY: Karen Renning, Roberta McDonald
10. Akron, NY: Robert Wagner, Gail Seamans
11. Buffalo, NY: Julia Wells, Alice McKale, Brad Lown, Charles Halvorsen
12. Lancaster, NY: Marie Wendling, Anna Bauer, Dorothy Danner, Ray Franz, Cy Wolfing
13. Batavia, NY: Jane & Max Mason, David Keller, Don Thurau, Eileen & Robert Hull
14. Hamburg, NY: Barbara Walker, Erma Kern, Belle Minsley, Ken & Barb Brandes, Bob & Lucille Leonard, Pam McNeil, Mrs. Hunley, Phyllis Hansen, Ginny Van Cise
15. Java, NY: William Bogacki, Esther Becker
16. Angola, NY: Frances Rew, Lois Buck
17. Cattaraugus, NY: Wavel & Maxine Barber, David & Janice Bigelow, Carolyn & Francis Frank, Audrey Horbett.
18. Delevan, NY: No report - No compiler available.
19. Filmore, NY: Allegany Bird Club - Victor Carpenter, Larry Wilson, Donald Goodsell, Scott & Steve Herdman, Mr. & Mrs. Howard Lang, Dora & Howard Lilly, Faye Clancy, Mr. & Mrs. Harland Hale, Ronald Andrews, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Franz, Josephine Main, Jane Moore, Helen

Sections & compilers, cont.

- Morse, Mr. & Mrs. Roger Nicholson, Katherine Palmer, Jean Perry, Marion & Emmette Smith, Midge Smith, Alice Evans, Larry Mullen, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Wilson, Doris, Lloyd & Alan Higby.
20. Dunkirk, NY: Terry Mosher, Allen Benton, Nancy Bowser, Dave Bryant, Kathy Bryant, Sylvia Clarke, Jeanine Flory, Joanne Goetz, Joe Gula, Joe Gula, Jr. Greg Harper, Phil Kumler, Terry Mahoney, Judy Mosher, Mac Nelson, Lucille Neveu, Bob Peterson, Bob Rand, Marty Sanden, Audrey Schafer, Tom Welch, Dave Wilson
21. Cherry Creek, NY: Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Dave Cooney, Dan Cordosi, Dave Gagne, Julie Heilman, Dot Pilzblad, Carol Roby, Sue Suckow
22. Sherman, NY: Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Dave Cooney, Jr. Dan Cordosi, Flora Elderkin, Dave Gagne
23. Frewsburg, NY: Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Dave Cooney, Jr., Dan Cordosi, Flora Elderkin, Dave Gagne, Joanne Nelson, Jean Pigman, Jim Roman, Tom Simmons
24. Allegany State Park, NY: Mary & John Forness, Heather & Shawn Forness, Michele Bush, Tim Baird
25. Allegany, NY: Tim Baird, Dorothy Baker, Lucille Bordonaro, Stephen Eaton, Charles & Margaret Green
26. Cuba, NY: Allegany Co. Bird Club, Doris Burton, Lou Burton, Ann Scott, Betty & John Compton, Sylvia Foster, Marcia & Milt Bond
27. Bolivar, NY: Allegany Co. Bird Club, Doris Burton, George & Ruth Brown, Frances DeGroff, Helen Link, Helen Apsey, Doris Hurlburt, Emma Lou King, Marjorie & Robert Richmond, Lillian Simons.
28. Alfred, NY: Allegany Co. Bird Club, Clarence Klingensmith, Dorothy Bayless, Connor Stephens, Harold Ward, Vivian Pitzrick, Erma Larson, Carla Coch, Jim Copenheaver, Lawrence Deverell, Ann & Robert Eisenhardt, Peter & Terry Finlay, Ellen & Don Lamb, Kathy MacDonald, Mary & Allen Ormsby, Robert & Anne Pipal, Suzanne & John Wood, Charlotte Alderson, Russell Allen, Fred Bayless, Martha DeLaVergne, Jay & Louise Gibson, Millie Hayes, Fay & Ben Heller, Viola Ide, Robert & Marjorie Mason, Maureen & Lauren Soule, Gladys & Allen Witter, Wisner Cook, Bea Thompson, Esther Tuttle, Mallery & Mary Adams, Doris & Lou Burton, Clifford Button, Mary Jordan, Matthew & Sandra Hotchkiss, Raymond Pitzrick, Roberta Clark, Evelyn Coats, Paul & Mary Fuller, Lynn Rositzke, Theodore & Lorena Vossler, Myrt Brown, Carl & Betty Burdick, Lucille Frank, Helen Graves, Lillian Downer, Phylliss Mattison, Gloria McMurtry, Evelyn Openhym, David & Ona Reynolds, Ruth Smith, Harvey & Maureen Spencer, Wilma Taggert, Mrs. Gordon Taggert, Fran & Bill Thompson, Susan & Fred Beckhorn, Ken Reichman, Sue Wilson, Fred Wygant

Comments from comparing the 1986 May Bird Count with past May Count records, starting in 1935:

Double-crested Cormorant - All time high; Great Egret - All time high; Cattle Egret - 1st since 1974; Wood Duck - All time high; Osprey - 10 yr. high; Bald Eagle - Equals 10 year high; Sharp-shinned Hawk - 10

Comments cont.

year high; White-rumped Sandpiper - Equals all time high; Common Snipe - Equals 10 year low; Bonaparte's Gull - 10 yr. low; Common Tern - All time low; Black Tern - 10 yr. low; Black-billed Cuckoo - All time high; Yellow-billed Cuckoo - Equals 10 yr. high; Common Nighthawk - 10 yr. high; Whip-poor-will - Equals 10 yr. high; Chimney Swift - 10 yr. low; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 10 yr. high; Hairy Woodpecker - 10 yr. low; Pileated Woodpecker - All time high; Willow Flycatcher - All time high; Eastern Phoebe - 10 yr. high; Eastern Kingbird - 10 yr. high; Horned Lark, E.a.praticola - Equals 10 yr. low; Barn Swallow - 10 yr. low; Red-breasted Nuthatch - 10 yr. low; Golden-crowned Kinglet - 10 yr. high; Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 10 yr. low; White-eyed Vireo - Equals all time high; Blue-winged Warbler - All time high; Nashville Warbler - 10 yr. low; Black-thr. Blue Warbler - Equals 10 yr. low; Prairie Warbler - All time high; Cerulean Warbler - 10 yr. high; Black & white Warbler - 10 yr. low; Ovenbird - 10 yr. high; Kentucky Warbler - Equals 10 yr high; Hooded Warbler - All time high; Yellow-breasted Chat - 10 yr. high; Indigo Bunting - All time high; Grasshopper Sparrow - 10 yr. high; House Sparrow - 10 yr. low.

104 Fordham Drive
Buffalo, N.Y. 14216

B.O.S. Field Trip to Tifft Farm and Times Beach

The day was Sunday, May 11, 1986. Thirteen people started out from the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve parking lot at 7:30 a.m. hungry for warblers and other migrant passerines. The weather was gorgeous - sunny with little wind. 300 yards down the path we entered beneath the woodland canopy and were greeted by a symphony of bird song. It was not long before someone found a brilliant male Scarlet Tanager that sang and sat for us for several minutes. Proceeding directly to the Mosquito Junction Boardwalk we soon found a Coot, a Moorhen, and a Pied-billed Grebe. The real action was not in the marsh however. It was behind us in the Cottonwoods. Nashville, Chestnut-sided, Magnolia, Yellow-rumped, Blackburnian, and Palm Warblers greeted us from the treetops. Further down the boardwalk, Paul Lazarus and his companions had a scope trained on a nearly invisible Black-crowned Night-Heron which they gladly allowed everyone to look at. We added a Black-throated Green Warbler and a Bay-breasted there as well as a Least Flycatcher, not calling, but tentatively identified anyway. Further along, on Old Tifft Street, an Ovenbird sang his emphatic song but would not allow visual inspection. We had to be content with a handsome Black-throated Blue Warbler and an equally sharp Cape May, not a bad compromise. At the end of the trail we looked in vain for the reported Least Bittern but added four male and probably breeding American Wigeon as well as one lingering male Gadwall. We moved on to Heritage Boardwalk, missing a Lincoln's Sparrow seen by other B.O.S.'ers as well as a weasel (at Tifft??). On the

boardwalk a Cooper's Hawk was seen about a half-mile distant being harassed by a crow. Closer at hand, a Marsh Wren sang only once while two Soras paraded around in last year's cattails affording everyone an outstanding view of this secretive species. A Virginia Rail that called once was not so accommodating. At the end of the boardwalk we tallied our last warbler species of the day, Black and white and American Redstart. Along with the abundant Yellow and Yellowthroat, we had seen or heard fifteen species of warblers. Since relatively small numbers of warblers had been seen the previous week we were fortunate to have our field trip on one of the first really good days of May.

With the Tifft Farm portion of our trip over, a few of us made the short drive over to Times Beach. We ended this beautiful May day with the regular Mute Swan, five more Black-crowned Night-Herons, and a graceful Great Egret. For the day, we had 73 species of birds and 19 participants who joined the trip at one stage or another.

Willie D'Anna

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Please note the following address changes:

Dr. Stephen W. Eaton
Ten Mile Road
Allegany, N.Y. 14706

Bradley A. Lown
59210 Hayes Hollow Road
Colden, N.Y. 14033

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December in the society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

Sept. 24: Fall Warblers. The fall migration of warblers is a most fascinating as well as a difficult and sporting proposition. In the fall, they all hug the thickets closely and when flushed out, they dart to the nearest thicket and disappear, permitting only the briefest flash of size, shape and color.

The inexperienced are hopelessly confused. Bob Brock will help us take some of the confusion out of confusing fall Warblers.

Oct. 8: Annual Meeting - election of officers. An interesting and informative program will follow the election.

Oct. 22: Gordon R. Batchellor, Senior Wildlife Biologist, Bureau of Wildlife, Region 9 will discuss the results of the first year's survey of common terns in Buffalo Harbor.

For further information, contact Dick Christensen, Program Committee Chairman (632-7762).

FIELD TRIPS

Sept. 20-21: Sat.-Sun. Presque Isle (Sat.) and Pymatuning (Sun.) weekend. For dinner and motel reservations, call Mary Saville (662-5215). Even a one day trip to Presque Isle, near Erie, Pa. 80 miles from Buffalo is well worthwhile for fall migrants.

Oct. 12: Sunday. October bird count. For a territory call the compiler: Ellen Schopp (877-3686).

Oct. 19: Sunday. Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Transitown Plaza by Citibank (Main St. east of Transit) or at 9:30 a.m. at Cayuga Pool overlook. Leader: Dick Christensen (632-7762)

Nov. 23: Sunday. Niagara River for gulls and waterfowl. Joint trip with Genesee Ornithological Society. Meet at the Old Fort Niagara parking lot at 9:30 a.m. (This is just outside the restored old fort). Leaders: Bob Brock (876-5862) and Bob Spahn (1-671-5690).

Dec. 20: Saturday. Beaver Meadow Christmas Count. Compiler: Dave Junkin (457-3228).

Dec. 21: Sunday. BOS Christmas Count, centered on Grand Island. To join a team or take a territory, call the compiler, Bill Bogacki (674-5781).

Dec. 27: Saturday. Audubon Christmas Count, centered in Chestnut Ridge Park. To join a team or take a territory call the compiler, Bill Burch (773-3690).

Usually these trips take most of a day so a lunch should be brought. For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field trips Comm. Chairman (773-3690), Grand Island, NY.

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-a-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, NY. 14304

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$10.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of
The Prothonotary was provided by the following
people:

Pat Cordaro (Printing)
Barbara Halvorsen (Typing)
Brad Lown (Mailing)

Editorial Board: Wavel Barber
Marian Dornhaffer
Bradley Lown
Julia Wells

EDITOR: Charles Halvorsen
9 Yale Place
Buffalo, N.Y. 14210
(716) 826-9247

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

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THE PROTHONOTARY

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY

NOV 04 1986

THE

ITHACA, N.Y. 14853
BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 52

JULY 1986

NUMBER 7

THE MONTH

June was cloudy, mild and wet in the tradition of early summer on the Niagara Frontier in recent years. A combination of heavy rainfall on the 1st (1.15 inches) and the 11th and intermittent precipitation throughout the period totaled 4.15 inches, 1.43 inches above average. The only major disturbance during the month consisted of violent gale force winds with gusts up to 69 m.p.h. at Buffalo on June 16th; a tornado was reported at Alfred Station in Allegany County on that date. Average temperature for June was 64.1°(F), 1.9° below normal. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

With the completion of field work for compilation of the species accounts in the forthcoming New York State Bird Atlas, once again June brings a lull reflected in the fewer records received by the compiler. This is not to say that those records do not warrant mention here. On the contrary, observations of the breeding bird population of our study area can be as interesting as a glimpse of an extra-limital rarity during the spring and fall migrations. This can be best illustrated this month by the experience of Elizabeth Brooks and Clarence Klingensmith while conducting a U.S. Fish and Wildlife breeding bird census in Allegany County on June 27th. At 5:00 a.m. on that date, they commenced the census in the State Reforestation Area at Rattlesnake Hill in the Town of Grove where they heard the unique 'hic-three near beers' song of an Olive-sided Flycatcher in the pre-dawn darkness of a truck trail there. As it was still one half hour until sunrise, they were unable to get a glimpse of the bird but it is a reasonable presumption that at this late date it is unlikely that it was a migrant. We have yet to verify breeding of the

Olive-sided Flycatcher in our study area although there are several summer records from Cattaraugus County summarized by Dr. Stephen Eaton in his excellent monograph, 'Birds of Cattaraugus County' (Bull. Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, Vol. 29, 1981). Eaton also cites W. E. Clyde Todd's remarks concerning this species in 'Birds of Western Pennsylvania' where it was described as established breeding summer resident in the early 1900's in Warren County, a few miles south of the New York State border. Here is a worthy field project for next season. Mrs. Brooks also reported hearing the distinctive call of a Northern Bobwhite early on the morning of June 6th while engaged in field work in the Town of Canadea in Allegany County. Among other interesting records submitted by her in June was that of 17 singing male Golden-crowned Kinglets at "previously documented breeding areas" in the towns of Alfred, Almond, West Almond and Ward in that county.

Other interesting records received in June include more sightings of a bird which seems to be achieving the status of a summer resident in the wetlands of the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area and the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, the Great Egret. On June 21st, Don Endres counted five egrets at the Wildlife Management Area and a sixth bird at the Iroquois Refuge. Gordon Bellerby reported a Snowy Egret in the lower Niagara River at Niagara-on-the-Lake on the 22nd. On June 18th, Elizabeth Brooks saw an Osprey flying over the Beaver Marsh on the Vanderbrook Road in the Town of Ward. 21 Least Sandpipers were seen by Don Endres at the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area on June 29th, inaugurating the long autumn passage of the shorebirds from their Arctic breeding grounds.

On June 30th, Terry Mosher located one of the two Yellow-throated Warblers which had been seen near Science Lake at Allegany State Park since mid-May. He saw the bird singing and feeding in pine trees near the lake for 45 minutes. Mosher speculates that the warbler's "non-stop singing" at so late a date suggests that it was still trying to attract a mate. The Prairie Warbler continues to prosper in Allegany County. Elizabeth Brooks reported three singing males at previously documented breeding areas in the Town of Andover and a male in full song was heard in an overgrown field amidst young spruce trees ranging in size from three to eight feet in height on Combe Road in the Town of Burns. Vivian Pitzrick discovered an adult Prairie Warbler at a nest containing four young birds in the Town of Ward on June 7th. Willie D'Anna and his party saw a male Prothonotary Warbler on the Swallow Hollow Trail at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on the 8th. Finally, on June 2nd and 3rd, a lone Evening Grosbeak was a visitor to the feeder at the home of Bill and Olive Burch on Grand Island.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Ave., Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

JUNE 1986 NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

American Bittern	June 8	1	Tonawanda WMA	D'Anna et al
Least Bittern	" 21, 29	2,2	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
	" 29	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Great Egret	" 8-29	1-6	Iroq. & Tona. WMA	Endres
	" 8,29	3,2	Iroquois NWR	Watson
Green w. Teal	" 8	1	Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
American Wigeon	" 26	11	Tiffit Farm NP	Bogacki
		(1 ad. 10 young)		
Gadwall	" 8,28	10,2	Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
Hooded Merganser	" 8	1(ad.w/6y)	Iroquois NWR	Watson
Osprey	" 18	1	Ward Twp.	Brooks
Bald Eagle	" 8,29	1	Iroquois NWR	Watson
Sharp-sh. Hawk	" 4,5,11	1,1,1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	" 19	1	Andover Twp.	Brooks
Cooper's Hawk	" 1-30	1-2	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	" 18	2	Alfred Twp.	Brooks
	" 30	1	Allegany SP	Moshers
Lesser Yellowlegs	" 29F	1	Iroquois NWR	Watson
Least Sandpiper	" 29F	21	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
Common Snipe	" 14	2	Hartland Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
Black Tern	" 28	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	" 28	1	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
Red-headed Wdpkr.	" 8	1	Iroquois NWR	Watson
	" 22	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	" 28	2	Niag.-on-Lake	Bellerby
	" 29	1	Iroquois NWR	Watson
Olive-s. Flycatcher	" 27	1	Swain	Brooks
Acadian Flycatcher	" 21	(PDBA) 2	Wheeler's Gulf	Moshers
Cliff Swallow	" 5	reports from the S. Tier & Genessee Co.		
Tufted Titmouse	" 1-30	2-4	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	" 6	10	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
		(2 ad. w/ 8 y.)		
	" 27,28	1(ad.w/3y)	Niag.-on-Lake	Bellerby
Red-br. Nuthatch	" 6,18	2,2	Ward Twp.	Brooks
Brown Creeper	" 2	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	" 6,18,26	2,1,2	Ward Twp.	Brooks
	" 8,29	1,1	Iroquois NWR	Watson
	" 18	1	Alfred Twp.	Brooks
Winter Wren	" 22	1	Rushing Stream WS	Rew (BOS)
Sedge Wren	" 14	2	Hartland Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
	" 26	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Golden-cr. Kinglet	" 6-28	(PDBA) 2-6	Ward Twp.	Brooks
	" 18	(PDBA) 1	Alfred Twp.	Brooks
	" 29	(PDBA) 6	W. Almond Twp.	Brooks
Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	" 7	1	Alma Twp.	Brooks
	" 30	1(juv.)	Cold Spring Twp.	Moshers
Eastern Bluebird	" 8	reports from across the region.		
Swainson's Thrush	" 1,5L	2,1	Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
Hermit Thrush	" 5	reports from the Southern Tier.		

Solitary Vireo	June	2,24	1,1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Nashville Warbler	"	1-30	3-4	Alfred Twp.	Brooks
	"	29	2	Arkwright Twp.	Moshers
Magnolia Warbler	"	15L	1	Niagara Falls	Roberson
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	3	2	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	6-29	3-23	Alfred Twp.	Brooks
Yellow-thr. Warbler	"	30	1	Allegany SP	Moshers
Prairie Warbler	"	1-30	1-4	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	1-30	1-2	Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	7,13,14	1(ad.w/4y.)	Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	18,28	2,1	Andover Twp.	Brooks
	"	19	1	Alfred Twp.	Brooks
	"	27	1	Burns Twp.	Brooks
(All Prairie Warbler reports were in PDBA.)					
Prothonotary Warbler	"	8	1	Iroquois NWR	Watson, D'Anna et al
Ovenbird	"	15L	1	Niagara Falls	Roberson
Canada Warbler	"	22	1	Arkwright Twp.	Rew (BOS)
Yellow-br. Chat	"	2,26,30	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Vesper Sparrow	"	18,27	3,2	Andover Twp.	Brooks
	"	27	1	Almond Twp.	Brooks
	"	28	1	Alfred Twp.	Brooks
Henslow's Sparrow	"	1-30	2-4	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	"	6-29	2	Alfred Twp.	Brooks
	"	26	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
White-thr. Sparrow	"	6,24	1,1	Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
	"	27	1(PDBA)	Almond Twp.	Brooks
	"	28	1(PDBA)	Alfred Twp.	Brooks
	"	29	2(PDBA)	W. Almond Twp.	Brooks
Evening Grosbeak	"	2,3L	1	Grand Island	W&O Burch
Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....255					
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue.....0					
Total for year.....255					

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Spring 1986 Hawk Migration at Grimsby and Western New York

The migration at Grimsby had its ups and downs this spring. Compared with the previous six years of continuous coverage, the total was 13% below the average, equal to the average variation. While the total for March was 90% above the average, those for April and May were 32% and 58% below their respective averages. Coverage for March was normal with five days off for inclement weather. April with five days off compared to an average just over one day, made this by far the poorest April. May had eight days of no coverage with only two being due to weather. However, the poor coverage does not explain the low May total. The following table shows how this year's totals

Spring 1986 Hawk Migration report, cont.

for major species varied with records of the previous six years.

Species	TV	OS	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	AK	Total
6 yr Ave.	731	28	112	4483	158	39	712	5780	3036	67	104	15,913
Ave. % Variation	17	25	12	8	11	46	9	33	6	42	27	13
1986 % Var.	+14	+18	+28	-23	+24	-46	+26	-35	-6	-33	+11	-13

Four species set new all-time highs, namely, Bald Eagles, Northern Harriers, Cooper's Hawks and Red-shouldered Hawks. However, they did not make up for the all time low numbers of Sharp-shinned Hawks. The bright spot for the season at Grimsby was the peak flight of Bald Eagles set on 18 March - seven - an all time high for the region.

Fran Rew and Lois Buck increased their coverage at Ripley from 20 days with 92 hours in 1985 to 33 days and 171 hours this season. However, this 65% increase in days and 87% increase in hours only added 4% more hawks to the count. Compared with last year, only two species totals increased more than the coverage hours, namely, Sharp-shins (+106%) and Harriers (+90%). The other species in descending order were: Turkey Vultures (+52%), Red-tails (+28%), Cooper's (+28%), Kestrels (+2%), Bald Eagles (0%), Ospreys (-24%), Broad-wings (-49%), Goshawks (-50%), Roughlegs (-67%) and Merlins (-100%). Note that whereas Sharpshins showed the greatest gain here, it is compatible with the Braddock Bay returns although inconsistent with the large drop at Grimsby.

It is agreed that the greatest plus at Ripley was the addition of John R. Luensman, an enthusiastic hawk watcher from nearby Mayville, who was not only an additional observer but also acted as leader for two reports. Hopefully, he will be in position to take on this lookout sometime in the future.

A step has been taken to put Hamburg on the map as an official hawkwatch area. Roberta McDonald has scouted two sites; (1) Pinehurst Elementary School and (2) Lakeside Cemetary, off of Route 75 in the Town of Hamburg. These lookouts were covered six days, from March 12 through May 13, for a total of 31.5 hours, yielding 779 hawks. Since most of the migrants going over Braddock Bay and all at Grimsby pass through the Hamburg area, it is only a question of finding the best locations for observing the optimum number of hawks and then having the observers there to record them. Roberta has made an excellent start and will welcome all the assistance she can get to make this project a success.

Spring 1986 Hawk Migration report, cont.

It is of special interest that the Braddock Bay reports found a new dimension in their hawk migration data. These lookouts now operate with one observer (primarily Frank Nicoletti) whom you met if you went on the field trip to Braddock Bay last April. In over 300 or 35% of the total observation hours most of the hawks were recorded at the limit of binoculars (altitude Code 5). In all other lookouts in the region, only 24 or 1.5% of the 1562 hours, most hawks were reported in altitude Code 4 (visible with binoculars only) and none in Code 5. In other words, this observer with unusually high visual acuity, together with effective utilization of good 10X binoculars was able to identify hawks at a greater distance or altitude than other observers and recorded many hawks that remain invisible to most observers. This puts a new dimension in hawkwatching and certainly such gifted observers should be encouraged.

Daily Counts - Species Key

TV	Turkey Vulture	BW	Broadwinged Hawk
OS	Osprey	RT	Red-tailed Hawk
BE	Bald Eagle	RL	Rough-legged Hawk
NH	Northern Harrier	GE	Golden Eagle
SS	Sharp-shinned Hawk	AK	American Kestrel
CH	Cooper's Hawk	ML	Merlin
NG	Northern Goshawk	PG	Peregrine Falcon
RS	Red-shouldered Hawk	UR	Unidentified Raptor

1986 Hamburg N.Y. Hawk Count Summary
Lake Side Cemetery & Pinehurst School

Date	Lo	Hrs	TV	OS	NH	SS	CH	BW	RT	AK	UR	Total
March												
12	PS	2.7							1			1
29	LC	6.0	33			2			23	1		59
30	LC	2.5	18		1				3			22
April												
19	LC	5.2	4	1	2	45	6	255	7	1	1	322
27	LC	5.3	18	8	1	82		178	8			295
May												
13	LC	3.0	25	4	5	3		36	7			80
1986												
Total		24.7	98	13	9	132	6	469	49	2	1	779

Spring 1986 Hawk Migration Report, cont.

1986 February & March Hawk Count Summary
At Grimsby, Ontario

Beamer Conservation Area - Airpark - Plains

Date	Hrs	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	UR	Total
Feb.																
22	5.0									11						11
26	3.0			1						7						8
Total	8.0			1						18						19
March																
01	8.0															0
02	5.5								1	4						5
03	6.8									25						25
04	5.8									1						1
05	6.0									41						41
06	0															0
07	0															0
08	5.5									3					5	8
09	4.5									5						5
10	7.2				1			1		2	2		2			8
11	8.1									19	3				1	23
12	6.0						4	1	26	317	6		2			356
13	5.2															0
14	0															0
15	7.0				3				3	10			5			21
16	8.0				1		1	1	3	112			3		7	128
17	+P 9.3			1	4		1	1	14	347	4		2		250	624
18	+P 10.8	1		7	6	5	5	6	79	409	9		1	1	550	1079
19	5.6								2	8			3			13
20	0															0
21	7.0								36	37	1	1	1		7	84
22	8.0	1			2	5		2	27	89		1	4		29	160
23	9.0	26			4	5	8		28	28			3		4	106
24	8.8	51		1	6	2	20	2	245	385	4		5		14	735
25	8.8	36			1	21	1		14	24			4			101
26	9.5	22			5	18	4	1	10	16	1		19			96
27	8.5	55				1	1		6	21			18		3	88
28	11.0	119			5	90	20	1	41	106	1		9		31	423
29	9.0	51		1	3	56	11	1	75	65			14		46	323
30	8.7	25		1	3	66	16		22	21			9		1	164
31	+A 12.7	6				103	18	1	177	245	1		5		188	744
Total	210.3	393		11	44	373	110	18	809	2340	32	2	92	1	1136	5361

Spring 1986 Hawk Migration Report, cont.

1986 April Hawk Count Summary At
Grimsby, Ontario

Beamer Conservation Area - Airpark

Date	Hours	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	UR	Total
01	8.3	13			2	99	6	1	36		39			4			11	211
02	7.2	1			2	25			3		30							41
03	7.3	3				47	6		19		42	1		2			4	124
04	7.2	3									1							4
05	4.0																	0
06	9.0	14			12	27	1		2		5	1		6			2	70
07	8.4	46			3	72	3				8			1			2	135
08	6.4	23			1	6					1						1	32
09	0								Rain									0
10	0								Snow									0
11	7.6				Snow	Showers			Most	All	Day							0
12	8.5	48	1	1	2	20	2				34	2	2	1			3	116
13	9.0	98	2		2	59	7	2	2	5	66	1	1	6	1	1	51	304
14	+A 11.3	32	9		6	149	6		5	3	33	1		2			18	264
15	2.1								Rain & Fog									0
16	0								Rain & Fog									0
17	6.8	1	1			21	4			11	7						1	46
18	+A 9.3	7	3		5	90	2			1	14		1	1				124
19	+A 10.7	25	6	1	5	422	5		4	834	32	1		2			87	1424
20	6.8	31	1			155	7		3	1007	11						7	1222
21	3.0					1												1
22	6.9		1								1							2
23	8.0	1			1	9	1			46	12	1					1	72
24	9.3	9	1		3	198	3		4	159	16	1		2			60	456
25	8.5	2	1		2	135	4			162	2	1		1	1		5	316
26	8.0	11	4		2	253	6			1091	12	3		2			46	1430
27	+A 9.5	7	1		7	205	6		4	159	16			2			6	413
28	7.2	6	1		15	251	4		3	119	9			1	1			410
29	7.0	6			3	94				12	7						1	123
30	7.1	8			4	185	3		2	84	15		1				30	332
Total	204.4	395	32	2	77	2503	76	3	87	3693	413	13	5	53	3	1	336	7672

Spring 1986 Hawk Migration Report, cont.

1986 May Hawk Count Summary
at Grimsby, Ontario

Beamer Conservation Area

Date	Hours	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	UR	Total
01	7.5	6			1	21					3							31
02	6.7	1				3	1				2							7
03	2.8				1	13	1				3						1	19
04	5.0	3			2	128	2		1	8	7			1			4	156
05	7.5	1			1	179	2			1	4							188
06	7.5	2			3	124	2			3	4							138
07	7.5	16				32				2	3						2	55
08	5.1	2				7	1			2	9							21
09	7.0	1			2	12	1			3	4						2	25
10	7.7	1			3	18				1	5						4	32
11	0							Not Covered										0
12	7.2	1	1		1	9					14							26
13	7.3				2	4					2							8
14	6.1	1									2							3
15	7.0				6	3				2	4							15
16	5.0					1				3								4
17	0							Not Covered										0
18	0							Not Covered										0
19	0							Rain										0
20	0							Rain										0
21	6.9	2				5					3							10
22	6.0					3					1						1	5
23	6.0					1					1							2
24	0							Not Covered										0
25	0							Not Covered										0
26	7.0					3				2	2							7
27	7.0					3					2				1			6
28	7.2	2				1					5							8
29	6.5	5																5
30	7.0	5				3				3	1							12
31	0							Not Covered										0

Total 150.5 49 1 0 22 573 10 0 1 30 81 0 0 1 1 0 14 783

1986 Total

Hrs. TV OS BE NH SS CH NG RS BW RT RL GE AK ML PG UR
573.2 837 33 14 141 3449 196 21 897 3723 2852 45 7 126 5 1 1486

Total
13835

Spring 1986 Hawk Migration Report, cont.

1986 Ripley New York Hawk Count Summary

Date	Hours	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	AK	UR	Total
March															
01	4.3					1					9		2	1	13
02	4.7										27				27
15	3.3	2			1	1			2		32				38
16	2.4										8				8
18	5.0	1			2	7		1	13		132	1	8		165
21	3.5										10				10
22	6.0	9			4	5			17		57		3	2	97
23	6.5	9							4		43		1		57
25	6.5	100			2	22			12		29			5	170
26	3.3	30			2	7			1		14		4		58
28	7.5	111				3	2		5		32				153
29	3.2	42				4			1		25		1	1	74
March Total	56.8	304			11	50	2	1	55		418	1	19	9	870
April															
01	2.3	22			1	4					2			4	33
03	4.5	98			1	13	1	1	1		24		2		141
05	2.5	195			1	11	1				18		3		229
12	4.2	34				3					12		1		50
13	7.0	51			1	5	3				14	1	3	1	79
14	6.5	82	5	1	4	24	7			21	28		2	2	176
18	7.0	74	1		6	70	4		1	80	13		1		250
19	9.3	105	2		6	145	5		1	225	63		9	17	578
20	3.0	38			1	11	1			40	2		1		94
24	6.8	43	4		7	46	1			251	35			7	394
25	7.5	54	7		3	259	1			237	30		4	6	601
26	7.5	46			1	130				118	25		3	17	340
27	9.0	94	5		3	150	1			178	41		2	16	490
28	7.0	43	4		3	51				12	15			9	137
29	4.7	10			1	75				65	19				170
30	4.7	58			1	96				29	22			17	223
April Total	93.5	1047	28	1	40	1093	25	1	3	1256	363	1	31	96	3985
May															
04	7.0	58	1		3	53				16	25			4	160
05	3.0	26	2			2				3	8			6	47
06	3.3	2	1			16				11	7				37
07	5.7	38	3		1	32				16	17				107
11	2.0	27			2	11					14				54
May Total	21.0	151	7		6	114				46	71			10	405
1986															
Total	171.3	1502	35	1	57	1257	27	2	58	1302	852	2	50	115	5260

Walter Klabunde
4934 Creek Rd., Lewiston, NY

FROM FARTHER AFIELD

The Peregrines Go West

If you have visited the peregrine barns at Cornell, you remember standing on tiptoe to peer through the small square windows into the cages, the creaking of the wooden boards in the hall and the occasional scuffling and whispering from the groups of people admiring the birds. The shifting of the peregrine program from Ithaca, New York to Boise, Idaho has brought about some amazing changes.

The World Center for Birds of Prey along the Snake River near Boise - on West Flying Hawk Lane - is now the home of this operation. It is built on land donated originally by the Bureau of Land Management to the city of Boise. The gift was withdrawn when it became a dump used by local citizens. It was an opportune time for the WCBP, who became the new owners. The unpaved road to the center discourages semi-interested visitors, while the staff works hard to educate children on the needs of birds and on the program involved. The tours which are scheduled every hour have been very popular, an encouraging note in an area where most country signs are filled with bullet holes and most young men are hunters.

After watching a film, visitors can examine live hatchlings sprawled next to a warm water tube under a heat lamp and then watch TV monitors which are set up for 80 channels each watching a breeding pen. Volunteer students take notes on all action - feeding, courting, hatching. Any negative behavior is quickly pinpointed because all other channels can be excluded in favor of any one. Low music is played to cover the sounds of workmen. Chicks are fed ground quail, specially raised to be disease free. No visitor goes near the breeding pens, but an exhibit area contains, in addition to peregrines, a golden eagle and an African hawk. Formerly owned by falconers, these few birds are used for education. Of two confiscated at the border, one was released to the wild while the other, too imprinted to be freed, became part of the education program.

In May, the Birds of Prey Area received an assist by the State Supreme Court decision to uphold action taken by Cecil Andrus, governor, who put a hold on any further land development for about 20 years. This helps to preserve some of the territory vital to the Townsend Squirrel, a main part of the falcon diet along the Snake River. When the reduction of its food and the over 100° heat force the Townsend underground in June, the falcon disappears from the area until the next nesting season. Other threats to its welfare come from military maneuvers at Mt. Home, nearby, and from the need to rebuild a power dam at Swan Falls, a point at the river that this year had three occupied eyries.

In spite of the problems, the numbers of peregrines in the West has increased and other places, notably the Columbia River Gorge, have seen nesting falcons as a result of this program.

Marian Dornhaffer

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

- Oct. 22 Gordon R. Batchellor, Senior Wildlife Biologist, Bureau of Wildlife, Region 9, will discuss the results of the first year's survey of Common Terns in Buffalo Harbor.
- Nov. 12 Bill Burch will present "Some Aspects of Bird Behavior", with special emphasis on the posturings of ducks.
- Nov. 26 No meeting.
- Dec. 10 Program - followed by Christmas Party. What's the program?? "Avian Jeopardy"! No program like this has ever been given before. You still don't know what the program is?? Then so you will just have to come to find out. Don't miss it! By David Cooper, followed by a report of the October bird count.

For further information, contact Dick Christensen, Program Committee Chairman (632-7762).

FIELD TRIPS

- Nov. 23: Sunday. Niagara River for gulls and waterfowl. Joint trip with Genesee Ornithological Society. Meet at the Old Fort Niagara parking lot at 9:30 a.m. (This is just outside the restored old fort). Leaders: Bob Brock (876-5862) and Bob Spahn (1-671-5690).
- Dec. 20: Saturday. Beaver Meadow Christmas Count. Compiler: Dave Junkin (457-3228).
- Dec. 21: Sunday. BOS Christmas Count, centered on Grand Island. To join a team or take a territory, call the compiler, Bill Bogacki (674-5781).
- Dec. 27: Saturday. Audubon Christmas Count, centered in Chestnut Ridge Park. To join a team or take a territory, call the compiler, Bill Burch (773-3690).

Usually these trips take most of a day, so a lunch should be brought. For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690), Grand Island, NY.

For current bird sightings, call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-a-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$10.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Pat Cordaro (Printing)
Barbara Halvorsen (Typing)
Brad Lown (Mailing)

Editorial Board: Wavel Barber
Marian Dornhaffer
Bradley Lown
Julia Wells

EDITOR: Charles Halvorsen
9 Yale Place
Buffalo, N. Y. 14210
(716) 826-9247

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

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BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

EC 04 1986
ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

VOLUME 52

AUGUST 1986

NUMBER 8

THE MONTH

July, usually our most pleasant month, was humid, warm and cloudy with almost daily rainfall, if only a light shower, at Buffalo and very severe thunderstorm activity in the Southern Tier counties. A violent thunderstorm moved across Chautauqua County during the evening hours of July 18th causing heavy flooding as creeks overflowed their banks washing out roads and isolating homesteads in the towns of Charlotte, Cherry Creek and Panama. The explanation offered by local meteorologists for this prolonged period of unusual weather was that a stationary tropical warm front was stalled over the northeastern United States and interacting with a series of cold fronts from Canada passing over it causing cloudiness, high humidity and frequent precipitation. While rainfall measured only 2.82 inches for the month at Buffalo, Vivian Pitzrick writes of a 3.50 inch reading in the Town of Amity in Allegany County filling the water tables "to the brim". However, she reports that nest loss among breeding passerines there was minimal. Average temperature for the month at Buffalo was 71.1°(F) .4° above the norm; sunshine was only 53% of the amount possible, 15% below normal for July. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Most of the ornithological excitement this month was generated by field activity in the Niagara Peninsula of Southern Ontario, both within and beyond the boundaries of our study area. Brock University at St. Catharines was the scene of a successful raptor hacking project involving four fledgling Peregrine Falcons which were placed in a large box with attached platform on the gravel roof of the University Tower. The birds, which were 30 days old when they arrived at Brock University on June 26th, were hatched from eggs laid by a female falcon at the Canadian Peregrine Restoration Project at Wainwright,

Alberta. They are of the race Falco peregrinus anatum, the subspecies formerly resident in Northeastern North America until extirpated during the pesticide plague of the 1950's. The peregrines observed by local bird-watchers during their spring and fall passage across the Niagara Frontier are thought to be, for the most part, migrants of the Arctic race, F.p. tundrius. A plan to monitor the diurnal activity of the young falcons was developed by the Peninsula Field Naturalists Club of St. Catharines, the organization entrusted with guiding the birds through their development to juvenal plumage and flight. Under the able direction of Mary Ellen Foley, volunteers were recruited to mount a continuous watch on the aerie during the hours of daylight. Their duties consisted of recording the pre-flight activities of the falcons on their platform and the times and duration of their flights off of the tower after July 4th, the date the first fledged bird, a male, tested its wings. Because of the many hours of observation demanded by this plan and the limited number of local observers available, Ms. Foley appealed for assistance to other bird clubs on the Peninsula and to the Buffalo Ornithological Society. I am pleased to report that she received gratifying support from the B.O.S. membership, our society responded with the largest numbers of volunteers. The falcons, two male and two female birds were soon distinguishable from each other and it was decided to identify them with names commemorating eminent Ontario residents, past and present. The male birds were henceforth 'Isaac Brock' and 'William Hamilton Merritt', while their female siblings became 'Margherita Howe' and 'Laura Secord'. By the end of July, two birds were missing from the aerie. A male falcon disappeared after a flight in mid-month and Ms. Foley received a report a few days later of an immature Peregrine Falcon with a red identification tag on its leg being observed at Buffalo which she feels was quite probably the truant 'Isaac Brock'. 'Laura Secord' was recovered, fatally injured on a road shoulder in St. Catharines where it was probably the victim of a collision with a vehicle. On August 8th, 'Margherita Howe' flew from the aerie for the last time, departing for parts unknown. The project ended on August 17th when 'William Hamilton Merritt' did not return from a flight and was seen four days later flying over Long Point, Ontario.

Further north on the Peninsula there were exciting first nesting records in the Hamilton area. A pair of Snowy Egrets nested on the west end of Van Wagner's Beach on Lake Ontario at Hamilton, successfully bringing off young. Several pairs of Double-crested Cormorants nested on the dikes in Burlington Bay and also fledged young. The cormorant nesting is of special interest as it portends similar activity on the part of the large population of this species now in the eastern end of Lake Erie.

Other records of interest in July include a third record of a Little Blue Heron in Western New York this year. On July 18th, Wayne Gall saw an immature bird of this species while leading a tour of 14 Buffalo public school teachers through the cattail marsh on the east side of Lisa Pond on the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve. This small heron was observed walking in the shallows at the edge of the cattails.

catching frogs. Field marks included the white plumage, dark-tipped bill and "drab yellow-green legs" of an immature Little Blue Heron. The heron was seen by several other observers until the end of the month. Don Endres saw an Osprey perched on the top of a dead tree in Ring Neck Pond on Sour Springs Road in the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on July 6th.

Migrant shorebirds were seen in our study area in good numbers by July 6th. On that date, Don Endres saw an early Solitary Sandpiper, three Semi-palmated Plovers and a Lesser Yellow-legs on the mud flats of a pond on the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area on N.Y. Route #77 in the Town of Alabama. Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter saw two Stilt Sandpipers at this location on July 20th. The only remarkable shorebird reported this month was probably the Wilson's Phalarope seen on a B.O.S. field trip to the sewage lagoons at Smithville, Ontario on the 27th. Once again this year, the high waters of Lake Erie have reduced feeding areas along the north shore to a minimum and rather disappointing to observers. Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter saw five immature Bonaparte's Gulls at Rock Point Provincial Park on July 11th but it is uncertain if their status was that of migrant birds. Paul Hess counted 120 adult Bonaparte's Gulls at Niagara Falls, Ontario on the 30th which were definitely migrants.

On July 5th, Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter located a male Yellow-throated Warbler at the Science Lake site in the Town of Red House in Allegany State Park where, as previously noted in these pages, two males have been seen since mid-May. The bird was perched some 30 feet up in a Red Pine, singing continuously but apparently unmated. Later on this date, D'Anna and Potter located a male Prairie Warbler in a plantation of young evergreens on Oak Hill Road in the Town of Carroll in Chautauqua County where this species has an established breeding population. The bird was seen carrying food but no nest could be located. Two other male Prairie Warblers could be heard singing but were not seen at that time. Finally, Terry Mosher writes that to his knowledge no observer in Chautauqua County has been able to locate a Clay-colored Sparrow at the old Dunkirk-Fredonia Airport site off of the Van Buren Road in the Town of Pomfret. For four years prior to this season, at least one male Clay-colored Sparrow has been seen and heard singing on territory there raising hopes of a breeding pair. Similarly, there is no evidence of resident White-eyed Vireos along the Sage Road site southwest of Fredonia in the Town of Pomfret where a food-carrying male was seen in July 1985.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Ave., Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

JULY 1986 NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the "Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario" (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
 F - Indicates first record for the migration.
 L - Indicates last record for the migration.
 (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

D.-crest. Cormorant	July 12,13	1,3	Rock Point PP	D'Anna,Potter
Least Bittern	" 6	1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson
	" 15	1	Tifft Farm NP	W&M Barber
Great Egret	" 6-27	1-4	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	" 12	1	Iroquois NWR	Watson
<u>Little Blue Heron</u>	" 18	1	Tifft Farm NP	Gall et al
	" 22	1	Tifft Farm NP	W&M Barber et a
	" 23	1	Tifft Farm NP	Andrie,Foster
	" 27	1	Tifft Farm NP	D'Anna,Potter
	(immature bird)			
Northern Pintail	" 19	1	Goat Island	D'Anna,Potter
American Wigeon	" 4,17	1(ad.w/12 y.)	Times Beach	Andrie
Osprey	" 6	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Bald Eagle	" 12	1	Iroquois NWR	Watson
	" 31	2(y.on nest)	Iroquois NWR	D'Anna,Potter
Northern Harrier	" 21	1	Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
Sharp-sh. Hawk	" 1,21	1,1	Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
	" 24	1	Alfred Twp.	Brooks
Cooper's Hawk	" 5	2(ad.w/ 3y.)	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	" 9	1	Alfred Twp.	Brooks
	" 16	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Red-should. Hawk	" 1,7,30	1,1,1	Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
	" 10	1	Ward Twp.	Brooks
Broad-w. Hawk	" 10	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	" 10	1	Ward Twp.	Brooks
	" 12	1	Naples	W&M Barber
Semipalm. Plover	" 6F	3	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
Greater Yellowlegs	" 19F-29	1-6	Goat Island	D'Anna,Potter
Lesser Yellowlegs	" 6	1	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
	" 6	2	Tifft Farm NP	Watson
Solitary Sandpiper	" 6F	1	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
	" 20	2	Goat Island	D'Anna,Potter
Upland Sandpiper	" 6	4(2ad.w/2y.)	Chautauqua Twp.	Mosher
Semipalm. Sandpiper	" 11F	1	Rock Point PP	D'Anna,Potter
	" 26	2	Portland Twp.	Mosher
Pectoral Sandpiper	" 29F	3	Fredonia	Mosher
*Stilt Sandpiper	" 20F	2	Tonawanda WMA	D'Anna,Potter
	" 22	1	Goat Island	D'Anna,Potter

Short-b. Dowitcher	July	12F	3	Iroquois NWR	Watson
"	"	22	2	Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
American Woodcock	"	4	1	Hanover Twp.	Mosher, Trudnows
"	"	6	3	Tifft Farm NP	Watson
"	"	10	1	Ward Twp.	Brooks
"	"	28	2	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
*Wilson's Phalarope	"	27	1	Smithville, Ont.	Andrie (BOS)
Bonaparte's Gull	"	11, 12	5 (imm.)	Rock Point PP	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	30F	120 (ad)	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Hess
Caspian Tern	"	11F-13	2-6	Rock Point PP	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	20	5	Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
Black Tern	"	12	1	Rock Point PP	D'Anna, Potter
Black-b. Cuckoo	"	7	1 (y. in nest)	Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	19	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	7	1	Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	12	1	Iroquois NWR	Watson
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	12	1	Iroquois NWR	Watson
Cliff Swallow	"	6	2	Chautauqua Twp.	Mosher
"	"	12	2	Dunkirk	Mosher
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-31	1-5	Amity Lake & Twp.	Pitzrick
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	10	1	Ward Twp.	Brooks
Brown Creeper	"	5	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	10	1	Ward Twp.	Brooks
Winter Wren	"	4	1	Villanova Twp.	Mosher, Trudnows
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	10 (PDBA)	6	Ward Twp.	Brooks
Eastern Bluebird	"	5 reports	from south of Buffalo.		
Hermit Thrush	"	7	2	Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
Nashville Warbler	"	7	1	Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	9	1	Ward Twp.	Brooks
"	"	9	1	Alfred Twp.	Brooks
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	7	1	Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	10	5	Ward Twp.	Brooks
Yellow-thr. Warbler	"	5	1	Allegany SP	D'Anna, Potter
Prairie Warbler	"	5	3	Carroll Twp.	D'Anna
"	"	6, 8	(PDBA) 1, 2	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Mourning Warbler	"	28	1	Tifft Farm NP	Hess
Yellow-br. Chat	"	6	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Vesper Sparrow	"	9, 24	2, 1	Andover Twp.	Brooks
Grasshopper Sparrow	"	9	1	Andover Twp.	Brooks
"	"	9, 22	1, 2	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	15	2	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Henslow's Sparrow	"	6	2	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	"	6, 15	1	Chautauqua Twp.	Mosher
"	"	9, 24	1, 2	Alfred Twp.	Brooks
"	"	31	1	Alexander Twp.	Endres
White-thr. Sparrow	"	1 (PDBA)	1	Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	9 (PDBA)	1	Alfred Twp.	Brooks
"	"	19	1	Allenberg Bog	D'Anna

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....255

Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue..... 2

Total for year.....257

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

1986 USF&W Breeding Bird Survey for Western New York

by Walter Klabunde

Inasmuch as this is the 20th year that the BOS members and their birding friends have participated in the F&W Cooperative Breeding Survey, it is fitting to present a 20 year summary as well as the results of this years survey. Unfortunately, the summary is limited to 19 years instead of 20. For various reasons, in 1982 five of the 18 routes were not covered. In years where one or two routes were missing, total counts for each species have been adjusted by substituting the average for each species recorded on the missing route the year before and after the missed year only if recorded both years. However, such adjusted totals would be very questionable where five routes were involved. Actually, totals were adjusted in 8 years with one missing run and 3 years with two missing runs.

The following individuals covered their routes with 50 defined stops by recording the numbers of each species heard or seen in three minutes at each stop.

Route		Cooperators	
Number	Name	Observer	Assistant
045	° Phillip's Creek	Doris Burton *	- -
046	° Swain	Elizabeth Brooks *	Clarence Klingensmith *
052	° Mt. Morris	Douglas Bassett	- -
053	Hamburg	William Bogacki	Esther Becker
054	West Seneca	Marie Wendling *	Clare Henderson
055	° Gainesville	Mary Batcheller	- -
056	Cattaraugus	Timothy Baird	Stephen W. Eaton
057	East Java	David Junkin	Marty Junkin
058	° Castile	Douglas Bassett	- -
059	° Randolph	Timothy Baird	Stephen W. Eaton *
060	Centerville	Wavell Barber	Maxine Barber
061	° Sheridan	Frances M. Rew *	Lois Buck *
062	° Cherry Hill	Robert A. Sundell *	- -
063	° Nashville	Robert Wagner	Joan Wagner
064	St. Johnsburg	Margaret Wright	Jack Wright
065	° E. Youngstown	William D'Anna	Betsy Potter
066	Byron	David Keller	Steven Mowers
111	+ Vandalia	Regina Van Scoy	James S. Van Scoy

° Route covered every year, + Route initiated in 1968-then covered every year. *Cooperator since 1967.

As indicated above, all routes were covered this year, in which a total of 16,459 individuals including 121 species were recorded.

1986 USF&W Breeding Bird Survey, cont.

Peculiarly enough, this established both the lowest total and the highest number of species recorded in the twenty year period. The highest total individuals, 20,767, was recorded in 1973 while the median total, 18,045 was recorded in 1968. The lowest number of species, 108, occurred in both 1972 and 1979. The median number of species, 114, was recorded in both 1978 and 1984.

Table 1 lists all species recorded on the 18 WNY routes from 1967 to 1986 (except 1982) and shows the maximum, minimum and median number for the period as well as the number of years the species was recorded. For those species recorded this year, the status in respect to past years is noted as well as total number and percentage of routes in which the species were recorded. The following table shows how status relates to rank in the twenty (19) years as well as the number of species in each status shown in parenthesis.

Number	Status	Rank	Number	Status	Rank	Number	Status	Rank
(15)	H+	1	(19)	M+	5,6,7	(10)	L+	16,17
(15)	H	2	(18)	M	8,9,10,11,12	(7)	L	18
(21)	H-	3,4	(9)	M-	13,14,15	(7)	L-	19

Over the entire period 166 species have been recorded of which six are considered late migrants, namely; Bufflehead, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Blackpoll Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, White-crowned Sparrow and Rusty Blackbird. Two species, Olive-sided Flycatcher and Philadelphia Vireo, although not listed as known breeders, must be considered as possible breeders considering the late dates (6/21-27). Finally, the Yellow-throated Warbler recorded in 1985 is classified as casual breeding north to the Great Lakes.

Other statistics apparent from Table 1:

Eighty one species were recorded every year.

Nineteen species were recorded only once (including the late migrants).

Eight species were only recorded two years.

Seven species were only recorded three years.

Four species were only missed one year.

Six species were only missed two years.

Four species were only missed three years.

Thirty seven species were recorded 4-15 years.

Two species, Common Merganser and Osprey, were new on the list this year.

By comparing the number of times a species totaled more than the median in the first ten years against the last ten years may indicate whether the species is on the increase or decrease. When the ratio is over 2:1 or under 1:2 should justify classifying the species as decreasing or increasing. Species listed in Table 2 under their respective classification meet this criteria. Where other variables cast doubt on the classification the species is marked with an asterisk. Thus the increasing category lists 35 species plus 9 probables

1986 USF&W Breeding Bird Survey - cont.

while the decreasing category lists 23 species plus 13 probables. It is noteworthy that six of the ten most numerous species (based on median numbers) are on the decreasing list versus only one on the increasing side. Also note that six of the ten sparrow species are on the decreasing list and only two on the increasing list.

4923 Creek Road
Lewiston, N.Y. 14092

Table 1

Species	Status	Total	% Rtes	19 Year Comparison			Years Recorded
				High	Low	Median	
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	-	6	0	0	9
American Bittern	-	-	-	2	0	0	7
Least Bittern	-	-	-	1	0	0	1
Great Blue Heron	H-	31	68	33	3	14	19
Great Egret	-	-	-	1	0	0	1
Green-backed Heron	L+	9	26	20	7	16	19
Bl.-crown Night Heron	-	-	-	3	0	0	4
Canada Goose	H-	3	11	20	0	0	6
Wood Duck	H-	12	21	32	0	3	12
American Black Duck	-	-	-	7	0	0	8
Mallard	H-	41	42	57	17	30	19
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	10	0	2	13
Blue-winged Teal	-	-	-	8	0	0	2
Bufflehead	-	-	-	3	0	0	1
Hooded Merganser	H	1	5	2	0	0	2
Common Merganser	H+	1	5	1	0	0	1
Turkey Vulture	H+	20	32	20	0	2	16
Osprey	H+	1	5	1	0	0	1
Northern Harrier	M+	2	11	7	0	1	18
Sharp-shinned Hawk	H	2	11	2	0	0	8
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	-	2	0	0	8
Red-shouldered Hawk	L	1	5	9	1	4	19
Broad-winged Hawk	H-	3	11	5	0	0	9
Red-tailed Hawk	M-	12	32	19	6	14	19
American Kestrel	L+	11	32	28	8	21	19
Ring-necked Pheasant	L-	53	37	271	53	181	19
Ruffed Grouse	-	-	-	7	0	0	9
Wild Turkey	M+	2	11	17	0	2	11
Northern Bobwhite	-	-	-	2	-	-	4
Virginia Rail	-	-	-	1	0	0	1
Sora Rail	-	-	-	2	0	0	3
Common Moorhen	H-	1	5	2	0	0	9
American Coot	-	-	-	1	0	0	2
Killdeer	H+	210	100	210	130	173	19
Spotted Sandpiper	L	2	11	19	1	7	19
Upland Sandpiper	M	5	16	19	0	7	17

1986 USF&W Breeding Bird Survey - Table 1 - cont.

Species	Status	Total	% Rtes	19 Year Comparison			Years Recorded
				High	Low	Median	
Common Snipe	M+	6	21	11	0	4	18
American Woodcock	H	3	5	3	0	0	9
Ring-billed Gull	M+	132	26	353	0	16	16
Herring Gull	-	-	-	2	0	0	1
Caspian Tern	-	-	-	1	0	0	1
Black Tern	-	-	-	6	0	0	1
Rock Dove	M+	409	100	509	177	320	19
Mourning Dove	H-	440	100	479	213	329	19
Black-billed Cuckoo	H-	20	53	28	5	12	19
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	H+	11	16	11	0	2	17
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	-	3	0	0	6
Great Horned Owl	H	5	16	6	0	2	13
Barred Owl	-	-	-	5	0	1	12
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	1	0	0	1
Common Nighthawk	-	-	-	1	0	0	3
Whip-poor-will	-	-	-	1	0	0	2
Chimney Swift	M	52	58	73	35	50	19
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	M	3	16	13	1	4	19
Belted Kingfisher	M-	11	26	27	6	13	19
Red-headed Woodpecker	L+	1	5	6	1	3	19
Red-bellied Woodpecker	H	9	21	9	0	1	12
Yel.-bellied Sapsucker	H-	5	21	9	0	3	16
Downy Woodpecker	M	31	89	55	9	25	19
Hairy Woodpecker	M-	2	11	9	1	4	19
Northern Flicker	L	37	74	127	22	58	19
Pileated Woodpecker	L+	1	5	6	1	2	19
Olive-sided Flycatcher	H+	2	11	2	0	0	2
Eastern Wood-Pewee	M	44	95	74	33	48	19
Yel.-bellied Flycatch.	-	-	-	1	0	0	1
Acadian Flycatcher	H	1	5	1	0	0	5
Alder Flycatcher	M	17	42	28	6	15	(12) 19
Willow Flycatcher	H+	105	74	105	41	58	(12) 19
Least Flycatcher	M	54	89	77	33	53	19
Eastern Phoebe	M-	33	74	79	20	49	19
Great Cr. Flycatcher	L-	22	53	56	22	35	19
Eastern Kingbird	H-	86	100	104	58	78	19
Horned Lark	M	55	47	122	21	54	19
Purple Martin	M+	36	21	45	17	31	19
Tree Swallow	H+	103	74	103	12	39	19
N. Rough-wing. Swallow	M	8	21	40	1	8	19
Bank Swallow	M	85	26	229	14	75	19
Cliff Swallow	M	9	21	17	0	9	17
Barn Swallow	H+	592	100	592	281	464	19
Blue Jay	H-	132	100	177	64	101	19
American Crow	H-	823	100	918	485	691	19
Bl.-capped Chickadee	H-	103	89	127	52	81	19
Tufted Titmouse	H	2	11	3	0	0	7
Red-br. Nuthatch	H-	4	16	5	0	1	17

1986 USF&W Breeding Bird Survey - Table 1 - cont.

Species	Status	Total	% Rtes	19 Year Comparison			Years Recorded
				High	Low	Median	
White-br. Nuthatch	M	14	53	22	5	15	19
Brown Creeper	H-	2	11	4	0	1	12
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	1	0	0	3
House Wren	M+	189	95	253	111	173	19
Winter Wren	-	-	-	3	0	0	7
Sedge Wren	H	2	5	3	0	0	5
Marsh Wren	H	2	5	3	0	0	7
Golden-cr. Kinglet	H	5	5	7	0	2	13
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	-	-	-	1	0	0	1
Eastern Bluebird	H+	22	47	22	3	9	19
Veery	L	40	58	68	37	47	19
Swainson's Thrush	-	-	-	1	0	0	1
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	16	0	3	16
Wood Thrush	L+	119	95	180	112	152	19
American Robin	H-	1635	100	1694	1256	1431	19
Gray Catbird	L	170	95	252	168	195	19
Northern Mockingbird	M+	1	5	4	0	0	7
Brown Thrasher	L+	13	47	61	10	31	19
Cedar Waxwing	H+	232	95	232	64	122	19
European Starling	M-	1827	100	2844	1702	2471	19
Solitary Vireo	H	7	16	11	1	3	19
Yellow-throated Vireo	M+	3	11	8	1	3	19
Warbling Vireo	M+	53	68	75	28	44	19
Philadelphia Vireo	-	-	-	1	0	0	1
Red-eyed Vireo	L-	99	89	228	99	171	19
Blue-winged Warbler	M	13	26	37	5	11	19
Golden-winged Warbler	-	-	-	4	0	0	8
"Brewster's" Warbler	-	-	-	1	0	0	2
Nashville Warbler	M	1	5	4	0	1	15
Yellow Warbler	M+	320	100	444	182	304	19
Chestnut-sided Warbler	H-	30	58	32	14	23	19
Magnolia Warbler	H-	11	21	5	0	7	17
Bl.-throat. Blue Warb.	M+	1	5	4	0	1	10
Yellow-rumped Warbler	H+	5	5	5	0	0	9
Bl.-throat. Green Warb.	H-	22	37	29	9	20	19
Blackburnian Warbler	H	11	26	14	2	8	19
Yellow-throated Warbler	-	-	-	1	0	0	1
Pine Warbler	-	-	-	1	0	0	3
Prairie Warbler	H	1	5	1	0	0	2
Blackpoll Warbler	-	-	-	1	0	0	1
Cerulean Warbler	-	-	-	1	0	0	3
Bl.-and-wh. Warbler	-	-	-	2	0	0	7
American Redstart	M+	26	47	38	9	25	19
Ovenbird	H-	42	47	53	21	33	19
Northern Waterthrush	-	-	-	4	0	0	6
Louisiana Waterthrush	H	2	5	2	0	1	12
Mourning Warbler	H-	13	26	28	6	12	19
Common Yellowthroat	M+	258	100	279	153	224	19

1986 USF&W Breeding Bird Survey - Table 1 - cont.

Species	Status	Total	% Rtes	19 Year Comparison			Years Recorded
				High	Low	Median	
Hooded Warbler	H	7	32	9	0	3	17
Wilson's Warbler	-	-	-	1	0	0	1
Canada Warbler	M-	3	11	11	2	4	19
Yellow-breasted Chat	-	-	-	2	0	0	8
Scarlet Tanager	M-	25	58	35	15	29	19
Northern Cardinal	M+	125	89	201	45	110	19
Rose-br. Grosbeak	M	58	79	68	28	50	19
Indigo Bunting	M+	159	95	217	60	127	19
Rufous-sided Towhee	L+	47	58	138	42	84	19
Chipping Sparrow	H+	411	100	411	249	300	19
Field Sparrow	L+	115	89	253	93	163	19
Vesper Sparrow	L-	5	21	119	5	22	19
Savannah Sparrow	L+	326	95	646	317	429	19
Grasshopper Sparrow	L+	4	16	39	0	7	18
Henslow's Sparrow	M-	2	11	23	0	6	18
Song Sparrow	M-	878	100	1372	846	972	19
Swamp Sparrow	M+	20	32	30	8	18	19
Wh.-throated Sparrow	H+	6	16	6	0	1	14
Wh.-crowned Sparrow	-	-	-	1	0	0	1
Dark-eyed Junco	M+	20	32	33	5	14	19
Bobolink	M+	382	95	498	284	369	19
Red-winged Blackbird	L-	1750	100	3754	1750	2991	19
Eastern Meadowlark	L	194	95	610	185	320	19
Western Meadowlark	-	-	-	1	0	0	3
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	1	0	0	1
Common Grackle	L	1190	100	2042	1148	1502	19
Brown-headed Cowbird	M	170	95	309	87	194	19
Orchard Oriole	-	-	-	2	0	0	3
Northern Oriole	L-	74	74	175	74	125	19
Purple Finch	M	17	32	26	13	17	19
House Finch	H+	99	74	99	0	0	6
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	7	0	0	2
American Goldfinch	M	420	100	774	321	439	19
House Sparrow	L-	848	100	1543	848	1091	19

Table 2

Increasing

Great Blue Heron
Wood Duck *
Turkey Vulture
Northern Harrier
Cooper's Hawk
Broadwinged Hawk
Ruffed Grouse *

Decreasing

Pied-billed Grebe
American Bittern *
American Black Duck
Red-tailed Hawk *
Ring-necked Pheasant
Spotted Sandpiper
Upland Sandpiper

1986 USF&W Breeding Bird Survey - Table 2 - cont.

Increasing

Killdeer
Ring-billed Gull
Rock Dove
Mourning Dove
Great Horned Owl
Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Alder Flycatcher *
Willow Flycatcher
Eastern Kingbird *
Tree Swallow *
Barn Swallow
Blue Jay
Black-capped Chickadee
Red-breasted Nuthatch
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Gray Catbird *
Northern Mockingbird
Cedar Waxwing *
Solitary Vireo
Warbling Vireo
Blue-winged Warbler
Yellow Warbler
Magnolia Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Black-throated Green Warbler *
American Redstart *
Ovenbird
Common Yellowthroat
Northern Cardinal
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Indigo Bunting
Chipping Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
House Finch

Decreasing

Common Snipe *
Red-headed Woodpecker *
Northern Flicker
Eastern Phoebe *
Horned Lark
Northern Rough-winged Swallow
Cliff Swallow *
Veery *
Brown Thrasher
European Starling
Red-eyed Vireo *
Golden-winged Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler *
Black-throated Blue Warbler
Blackburnian Warbler *
Canada Warbler *
Rufous-sided Towhee
Field Sparrow
Vesper Sparrow
Savannah Sparrow
Grasshopper Sparrow
Henslow's Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Red-winged Blackbird
Eastern Meadowlark
Common Grackle *
Brown-headed Cowbird
Northern Oriole *
American Goldfinch

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Please note the following phone number:

Bradley A. Lown - 941-5720

In Memorium

The Society has received word of the death of Dr. Gardiner Bump, a charter member of the Buffalo Ornithological Society. Dr. Bump died on June 26th, 1986 at the age of 85 in West Bend, Wisconsin. He was a resident of Delmar, N.Y. for nearly 50 years prior to moving to Wisconsin with his wife, Janet in 1984.

A graduate of Cornell University, Dr. Bump was hired as a curatorial assistant in the Botany Section of the Buffalo Museum of Science in November, 1928 and also held the post of Assistant Curator of Education and Director of the Adult Education Program at the museum prior to resigning in 1930 to join the N.Y. State Conservation Department. He was recruited to organize biological studies of the Ruffed Grouse to aid in the propagation of this game bird, a position for which he was singularly suited, having begun his career in 1926 studying the population dynamics of this species in the Connecticut Hill area of Tompkins County, N.Y. under the aegis of Dr. Arthur A. Allen. This project lasted until 1943, eventually involving more than 200 individuals; it resulted in the publication by the State of New York of the book, Ruffed Grouse, Life History, Propagation, Management, a monumental tome with Dr. Bump as one of the major authors. After serving in World War II, Dr. Bump joined the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, spending the next 25 years traveling extensively to study the galliform avifauna of India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Turkey, Argentina and most of Europe for the purpose of possible introduction of new game bird species into the United States.

In October, 1929 Gardiner Bump, in the company of John Aldrich, Clark Beardslee, Harold Mitchell, James Savage, John Schmahl, Ray Verrill and Alfred Wander, met at the Buffalo Museum of Science and agreed to form a club dedicated to the formal field study of birds on the Niagara Frontier. With these eight enthusiasts forming its nucleus, the Buffalo Ornithological Society became a section of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences. Although Gardiner Bump left Western New York soon thereafter, he retained his membership in the Society and returned to participate in anniversary celebrations for many years.

J.F.Thill

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

Vol. 52, No. 8 "Meetings" cont.

- Nov. 12: Bill Burch will present "Some Aspects of Bird Behavior", with special emphasis on the posturings of ducks.
- Nov. 26: No meeting.
- Dec. 10: Program followed by Christmas Party. What's the program? "Avian Jeopardy"! No program like this has ever been given before. You still don't know what the program is? Then you will just have to come to find out. Don't miss it! By David Cooper, followed by a report of the October bird count.

For further information, contact Dick Christensen, Program Committee Chairman (632-7762).

FIELD TRIPS

- Nov. 23: Sunday. Niagara River for gulls and waterfowl. Joint trip with Genesee Ornithological Society. Meet at the Old Fort Niagara parking lot at 9:30 a.m. (This is just outside the restored old fort). Leaders: Bob Brock (876-5862) and Bob Spahn (1-671-5690).
- Dec. 20: Saturday. Beaver Meadow Christmas Count. Compiler: Dave Junkin (457-3228).
- Dec. 21: Sunday. BOS Christmas Count, centered on Grand Island. To join a team or take a territory, call the compiler, Bill Bogacki (674-5781).
- Dec. 27: Saturday. Audubon Christmas Count, centered in Chestnut Ridge Park. To join a team or take a territory, call the compiler, Bill Burch (773-3690).

Usually these trips take most of a day, so a lunch should be brought. For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690), Grand Island, N.Y.

For current bird sightings, call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-a-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, N.Y. 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$10.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Pat Cordaro (Printing)
Barbara Halvorsen (Typing)
Brad Lown (Mailing)

EDITOR: Charles Halvorsen
9 Yale Place
Buffalo, N.Y. 14210
(716) 826-9247

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE
BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.
BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY

FEB 05 1987

ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

VOLUME 52

SEPTEMBER 1986

NUMBER 9

THE MONTH

August was a sunny and cool month with the only noteworthy weather disturbance being heavy thunderstorms on the 1st which caused local flooding in southern Erie and northern Cattaraugus counties. The month was characterized by a number of sunny, hot and humid days interspersed with periods of cooler weather. The only significant cold front of the period occurred on August 27th with unseasonably cool weather through the 30th. The first frost of the season in Allegany County was recorded at Amity Lake on the 29th. The average temperature for the month was 67.9°(F), one degree below normal; precipitation measured only 2.73 inches, 1.43 inches below average. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Other than the obvious movement of migrants into our study area precipitated by the cold front on the 27th, August was unremarkable for ornithological activity. The first migrant parulids were reported on August 9th when Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter found both a Blackburnian Warbler and a Black-and-white Warbler at Morgan's Point, Ontario but no unusual numbers of birds, indicative of a wave of migratory activity, were in evidence until month's end. Following the cold front on August 27th, 14 species of warblers were tallied at the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve in Buffalo including the first migrant Black-throated Green, Blackpoll, Ovenbird and Wilson's Warbler records for the month. Also, the record high water levels which continue to beset the lower Great Lakes have again inundated those sections of the north shore of Lake Erie most attractive as resting and feeding sites for large numbers of southbound shorebirds. Once again, the locus of field activity in quest of these waders was largely reduced to scanning plowed or flooded fields, sod farms and smaller permanent bodies of water such as sewage lagoons and the wetlands of game management areas

east of Buffalo. There was a noticeable decline in both the numbers of species and individual shorebirds reported in August.

Among the interesting birds seen this month were ten Double-crested Cormorants at Niagara Falls reported by Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter on August 27th. The maximum count for the month of Great Egrets in the Oak Orchard area was eight birds seen by Don Endres at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on August 10th while Bill Watson saw two of these egrets at Tifft Farm Nature Preserve on the 30th. A very early Lesser Scaup, probably a rare summering individual, was seen at Port Weller, Ontario by Bob Andrie and his party on August 31st. A pleasant surprise to the participants on the B.O.S. Field Trip to the Niagara Peninsula on August 24th was the sighting of an immature Bald Eagle in Wainfleet Township and an unexpected bonus was an immature Northern Goshawk flying over Morgan's Point, Ontario on that date. Osprey observations on the Niagara Frontier in summer continue to increase. This August, single Ospreys were seen at Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on the 16th (Endres), at the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area on the 23rd (Hess), in the Town of Elma on the 29th (Barbers) and at Belmont in Allegany County on the 31st (Pitzrick).

The first Forster's Terns, uncommon late summer and fall migrants, made their appearance at Dunkirk Harbor on August 15th when four seen there were reported to the Buffalo Museum of Science. Subsequently, Terry Mosher saw an adult Forster's Tern in winter plumage in Dunkirk Harbor on the 23rd. On August 27th, Willie D'Anna saw three Forster's Terns in the Buffalo Harbor off of LaSalle Park in Buffalo where he was also treated to the sight of an immature Little Gull and 80 migrant Black Terns.

Unusual shorebird sightings in August were few. During the B.O.S. Field Trip on August 24th, a Buff-breasted Sandpiper was observed among the plovers at the Merion Sod Farm near Lowbanks, Ontario. On August 3rd, Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter stopped at the Somerset-Barker Waste Treatment Facility on the Old Lake Road in the Town of Somerset in Niagara County where they were pleased to find a Whimbrel, an unusual fall migrant, on the lawn in front of the plant. They also saw eight species of shorebirds feeding along the shores of two permanent ponds at that site which should provide some interesting records of passage waders and other migrants in the future. D'Anna and Potter also reported the only Wilson's Phalarope of the month which they observed feeding in a flooded fallow field on the Town Line Road in Wainfleet Township, Ontario on August 9th. On the 25th, Don Endres saw two Red-necked Phalaropes feeding in the shallow waters and on the mud flats of Ring-neck Marsh on Sour Springs Road in the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge; both birds were in winter plumage. On August 30th, Brad Clements of Welland, Ontario saw two Red-necked Phalaropes swimming and feeding in a small pond on the east side of the entrance to the Welland Canal at Port Colborne.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

AUGUST 1986 NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the "Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario" (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

D.-crest. Cormorant	August 27	10	Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Potter
"	" 31	2	Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
"	" 31	1	Niagara Falls	Cooper
Least Bittern	" 9	1	Tonawanda WMA	Endres
"	" 28, 31	5, 4	Tifft Farm NP	Watson
Great Egret	" 2-30	2-8	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	" 28, 31	1, 2	Tifft Farm NP	Watson
Lesser Scaup	" 31F	1	Port Weller, Ont.	Andrle et al.
Osprey	" 16F	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	" 23	1	Tonawanda WMA	Hess
"	" 29	1	Elma	W&M Barber
"	" 31	1	Belmont	Pitzrick
Bald Eagle	" 24F	1 (imm.)	Wainfleet Twp, Ont.	Schaffner (BOS)
Northern Harrier	" 10	1	Wales	O. Rosche
"	" 31	1	Port Weller, Ont.	Andrle et al.
Sharp-sh. Hawk	" 2	1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Cooper's Hawk	" 2	1	Hamburg	Andrle et al.
"	" 2-28	1-2	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	" 10	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	" 15	1	E. Aurora	Andrle et al.
Broad-w. Hawk	" 28, 30	1, 1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Black-bell. Plover	" 9F	5	Wainfleet Twp, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
"	" 24	17	Merion Sod Fm, Ont.	Schaffner (B.O.S.)
"	" 26-31	2-12	Niagara Falls	Cooper
*L. Golden Plover	" 24F	3	Merion Sod Fm, Ont.	Schaffner (BOS)
Semipalm. Plover	" 3	2	Somerset Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
"	" 31	2	LaSalle Pk, Bf.	Watson
Greater Yellowlegs	" 9	3	Niagara Falls	Hess
Upland Sandpiper	" 10	1	Newfane Twp.	D'Anna et al.
Whimbrel	" 3F	1	Somerset Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
Ruddy Turnstone	" 7F	1	Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
"	" 9	1	Niagara Falls	Hess
"	" 9, 23	2, 1	Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
*Sanderling	" 10F	6	Carlton Twp.	D'Anna et al.
"	" 31	5	LaSalle Pk, Bf.	Watson

Least Sandpiper	August 6	5 Fredonia	Mosher
Pectoral Sandpiper	" 5,6	1,1 Fredonia	Mosher
Dunlin	" 31F	1 LaSalle Pk, Bf.	Watson
Stilt Sandpiper	" 22	2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Short-b. Dowitcher	" 10	1 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Common Snipe	" 23	1 Iroquois NWR	Hess
	" 30	3 Iroquois NWR	Watson
Wilson's Phalarope	" 9	1 Wainfleet Twp, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
*Red-neck. Phalarope	" 25F	2 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	" 28	2 Port Colborne, Ont.	Clements et al
Little Gull	" 27F	1 LaSalle Pk, Bf.	D'Anna
Caspian Tern	" 8	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	" 10	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
	" 20	2 Lake Erie S.P.	Mosher
* Forster's Tern	" 23F	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	" 27	3 LaSalle Pk, Bf.	D'Anna
Black Tern	" 23F	12 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
	" 31	41 LaSalle Pk, Bf.	Watson
Olive-s. Flycatcher	" 27F	1 Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
Cliff Swallow	" 24	2 Wainfleet Twp, Ont.	Schaffner (BOS)
Tufted Titmouse	" 15	2 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Carolina Wren	" 12, 16	1 Eden	Andrie
Winter Wren	" 31F	3 Tifft Farm NP	Watson
Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	" 27F	1 Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
	" 31	1 Tifft Farm NP	Watson
Eastern Bluebird	" 8, 25	28, 20 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Swainson's Thrush	" 9F	2 Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
Solitary Vireo	" 1	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Philadelphia Vireo	" 30F	1 Iroquois NWR	Watson
Blue-w. Warbler	" 24F	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Schaffner (BOS)
	" 28	1 Fredonia	Mosher
Tennessee Warbler	" 29F	1 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	" 31	1 Tifft Farm NP	Watson
	" 31	3 Goat Island	Cooper
Nashville Warbler	" 23F	1 Buckhorn Is. s.p.	Watson
	" 24	2 Morgan's Pt., Ont.	Endres
Northern Parula	" 30F	2 Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
Chestnut-s. Warbler	" 24F	4 Morgan's Pt., Ont.	Endres
	" 28	9 Tifft Farm NP	Watson
Magnolia Warbler	" 23F	1 Buckhorn Is. S.P.	Watson
	" 24	3 Morgan's Pt., Ont.	Endres
Cape May Warbler	" 24F	1 Morgan's Pt., Ont.	Endres
Bl.-thr. Blue Warbler	" 24F	1 Morgan's Pt., Ont.	Endres
	" 31	1 Goat Island	Cooper
Yellow-r. Warbler	" 20F	1 Lake Erie S.P.	Mosher
Bl.-thr. Green Warbler	" 28F	1 Tifft Farm NP	Watson
Blackburnian Warbler	" 9F	1 Morgan's Pt., Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
	" 10	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Prairie Warbler	" 26 (PDBA)	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Bay-br. Warbler	" 19F	1 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	" 28, 31	1, 1 Tifft Farm NP	Watson
Blackpoll Warbler	" 28F	1 Tifft Farm NP	Watson

Bl.-&-w. Warbler	August	9F	1	Morgan's Pt., Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	19	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Ovenbird	"	28F, 31	1, 1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson
N. Waterthrush	"	20F	1	St. David's, Ont.	Cooper
Mourning Warbler	"	23F	1	Buckhorn Is. S.P.	Watson
	"	24	1	Morgan's Pt., Ont.	Endres
Wilson's Warbler	"	28F	1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson
Canada Warbler	"	28F	1	Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
	"	28F	1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....	257
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue.....	4
Total for year.....	261

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

New B.O.S. Committee Roster

Programs

*Morgan Jones - 433-5687
 Ken Coher - 632-3765
 Kathy Hentz - 885-7591
 Harriette Klabunde - 754-4424
 Robert Klips - 882-7956
 Sharon Sisti - 885-5288
 David Sugg - 839-5004
 Marie Wendling - 632-6625
 Marge Harwitz - 875-9224

Research

*Walter Klabunde - 754-4424
 Fran Rew - 649-4192
 Art Schaffner - 835-7589

Budget

Ray Prybis - 885-3767
 Bill Townsend - 691-7775

Audit

*Wavel Barber - 683-3061
 Ed Crohn - 839-2259
 * - Chairman or co-chairmen

Field Trips

*Bill Burch - 773-3690
 Bruce Chilton - 833-9242
 Willie D'Anna - 731-4348
 Ray Prybis - 885-3767

Conservation

*Roberta McDonald - 773-2945
 MaryAnn Stegmeier - 688-2957

Membership

*Maxine Barber - 683-3061
 Wavel Barber - 683-3061
 Robert Brock - 876-5862
 Ann Miraniam - 754-4788
 Karen Renning - 834-7832

Refuge

*Alan Kraft - 791-3929
 *Ellen Schopp - 877-3686
 Walter Klabunde - 754-4424
 Betsy Potter - 731-4348
 Don Robertson - 283-5359

New B.O.S. Committee Roster - cont.

<u>BOS Council</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Phone numbers</u>
Chair. Tom Harper	1988	547-9563
Sec. Willie D'Anna	1989	731-4348
Brad Lown	1987	941-5720
Julia Wells	1987	632-7430
John Wright	1987	688-9438
Wayne Gall	1988	681-8238
Lincoln Nutting	1988	773-7215
Ed Crohn	1989	839-2259
Alan Kraft	1989	791-3929
David Cooper	BOS Pres.	284-4118
Charles Halvorsen	Proth. Ed.	826-9247

THE BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S
1986 MARCH WINTER-BIRD SURVEY REPORT

This is the 5th and FINAL report of our 5-year March Survey of the Tufted Titmouse, the Carolina Wren, the Northern Mockingbird, the Northern Cardinal and the House Finch.

We had 23 members (12.7% of the B.O.S.' Territory Birding Membership) who helped this year. This is down from each of the previous four years. Thirty-four friends from both sides of the border helped us too and they made the difference in all of the statistics. Our total number of observers was 57.

The following finds were reported from 14 sections: 36 Tufted Titmice, (up); zero Carolina Wrens (down); 24 Northern Mockingbird (up); 285 Northern Cardinals (up); and 1055 House Finches (down).

There were few special sightings beyond the common species expected although Wild Turkeys and Wood Ducks in Ontario, Tundra Swan flying east over South Wales, and an Albino Finch in Niagara Falls, N. Y. did brighten the report.

Many thanks to our ten Canadian friends: David Sommerville and Gordon Lisfman of Fonthill; Mrs. E. Lister, Mrs. S. Gregory, Miss H. Lothian, Mrs. M. Duhn all of Niagara-on-the-Lake; Deborah Smith, Miss L. M. Biggar both of Ridgeville; and Mrs. John Leonard and Kayo Roy of St. Catharines; and to our twenty-four American friends: Mrs. D. Barber of South Wales; Mary Batcheller, a former member, of Cowlesville; Pearl Daily of Yorkshire; Mrs. R. Dorshide of Strykersville; Ethel Hein of East Aurora; M/M Orris Hull of Williamsville; Jeanine Flory of Fredonia; Ben Kinney of Strykersville; Clarence Klingensmith of Alfred Station; Greg Harper of Fredonia; the Kuma family of Buffalo; Mrs. Paul Metz of South Wales; Lucille Neveu of Silver Creek; Ron Rycroft of Gainesville; Leila and Jim Roberts of Yorkshire; Fay and

1986 March Winter-bird Survey Report - cont.

Ken Smith of Elma; Nona Sullivan of Dunkirk; Richard Sutter of Hamburg.

Kudos to our members: Alan Smith of St. Catharines; Gordon Bellersby of Niagara-on-the-Lake and Dr. Sommerville of Fort Erie; Wavel and Maxine Barber, Marion Bee, Ken Brandes, William Broderick, M/M Carl Forsberg; Rose Kuma, Bob and Eileen Hull, Alice McKale, Roberta McDonald, Terry Mosher, Don Roberson, Olga and Art Rosche, Ellen Schopp, Mary Saville, Marg and Jack Wright.

After this report there will be two additional pages containing information about this survey, showing where the members are and the % who helped during the 5 years, and a comparison chart of the 5 birds and where they were found over the 5-year period. (Comparison chart is after last page.)

Additional statistics can be gotten from these records, such as: (a) the total # of birds for the month divided by the # of observers would give the average # of birds per observer; (b) divided by the # of days gives an average # of birds per observer per day; (c) take the largest daily count and divide by the # of square miles covered gives a density per area in a month's time-frame. Of course, there are others.

Comments: 1) Even though the report form was changed 4 times during the five years, it was still not good enough to elicit the information wanted.

2) Perhaps 5 years is too long a period for members to maintain an interest in a study project. Maybe 3?

3) What did the study tell us other than where the birds are and are not?

4) Certain groups are used to and like doing an annual project like this, better we continue this activity for the sake of the B.O.S. if we are to remain a scientific study organization as per our By-Laws.

5) Heavy promotion (personal notes, special mailings, etc) did get us more help than when we did not do these things. Perhaps we would find more birds if we could inject a bit of fun and competition into it?

THANKS FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT FOR B.O.S.

Margaret Wright, Compiler

Addendum:

Chart for some statistics: Total # birds per person (by species) for each year

e.g. Total observers for 1982 : 36

" Tufted Titmice per obs.	10	divided by	36	=	0.28
" Carolina Wren	" "	6	" "	36	= 0.17
" Mockingbirds	" "	6	" "	36	= 0.17
" Cardinals	" "	275	" "	36	= 7.64
" House Finch	" "	146	" "	36	= 4.06

	<u>Tufted Titmouse</u>	<u>Carolina Wren</u>	<u>Mockingbird</u>	<u>Cardinal</u>	<u>House Finch</u>
1982	0.28	0.17	0.17	7.64	4.06
1983	0.40	0.07	0.11	4.05	7.91
1984	0.63	0.01	0.20	5.45	12.0
1985	0.40	0.05	0.25	6.40	15.30
1986	0.63	0.	0.42	5.	18.5

Participation in Winter Bird Survey

<u>BOS Territory Section No.</u>	<u>No. of BOS Members Residing in Section</u>	<u>% of those Participating</u>
1	0	
2	5	40
3	10	60
4	5	0
5	1	0
6	0	
7	0	
8	4	25
9	15	33
10	8	12.5
11	80	26
12	9	66
13	1	100
14	25	28
15	6	33
16	3	0
17	0	
18	1	100
19	0	
20	2	100
21	4	0
22,23,24,26,28	0	
25	1	0
27	2	50

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to new Associate Member:

Nancy J. White
160 Grandview
Tonawanda, N.Y. 14223 Tel. 833-5871

New Addresses:

Stephen J. Soule
22 Anderson Place
Buffalo, N.Y. 14222

George Letchworth
32 Surrey Lane
Brevard, N.C. 28712

Dick Collins
910 Knabb Rd.
Elma, N.Y. 14059

Nancie Greenman
6 School Street
Mystic, Conn. 06355

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

- Jan. 14: Paul Schnell, well-known area falconer, will present a program on "Raptor Biology & Ecology"
- Jan. 28: David Fisk, wildlife biologist at INWR, will give an update on management objectives and current programs at INWR plus Purple Loosestrife control measures.
- Feb. 11 Bruce Chilton's topic for the evening will be: "Bird Evolution". Join us for an interesting and informative evening.
- Feb. 25 Betsy Potter, a BOS member and artist, will present a program entitled "The Bird in Art - an Artist and Birdwatcher's View. This promises to be a very different and rewarding experience.

For further information, contact Morgan Jones, Program Committee Chairman (433-5687)

FIELD TRIPS

- Jan. 4: Sunday. Buffalo waterfront. Meet at Tifft Farm Nature Center at 9:00 a.m. We will cover Tifft Farm, Times Beach, LaSalle Park, WSRC, Broderick Park and perhaps Ft. Erie. Leader: To be announced.
- Jan. 11: Sunday: Waterfowl Count for the Federation of NYS Bird Clubs. The target date is January 11 but any date between January 10 and January 18 is acceptable. For assignment of territory call the coordinator, Wavel Barber (683-3061)
- Jan. 25: Sunday. Lower Niagara River for Gulls and waterfowl. Meet at the Old Ft. Niagara parking lot at 9:30 a.m. Leader: To be announced.
- Feb. 7: Saturday (Not Sunday). Dunkirk Harbor to see the gulls and waterfowl attracted by open water here. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Leisureland or 9:30 at the main pier in Dunkirk, N.Y. Leaders - Will D'Anna (1-731-4348), and Terry Mosher of LEBC. (For Leisureland, take Exit 57 from I-90 onto Camp Road (Hwy 75) and go a short distance westward).

Usually these trips take most of a day, so a lunch should be brought. For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690), Grand Island, N.Y.

For current bird sightings, call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.
(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-a-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, N.Y. 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$10:00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

EDITOR: Charles Halvorsen, 9 Yale Pl., Buffalo, N.Y. 14210 (716) 826-9247

The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo

Sections covered 1 2 3 4 5 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 18 19 20 25 27 28 1982 83 84 85 86

Tufted 1982 1F 1E 1983 1F 1984 6F 4E 2F 2E 1985 5F 1986 2F 6F 5F 2F 1E 4F 2E 2F 1E 2F 2E 1F 5E 6F 1F 2E 12F 2E 6F 7F 7F 10 34 57

Titmouse 1982 2F 6F 1983 5F 1984 2F 1985 2F 1986 2F 1E 4F 2E 2F 1E 2F 2E 1F 5F 7F 1F 3F 3F 3F 24 36

Carolina 1982 1983 5E 2F 1984 1985 1F 1986 2F 2F 2E 1F 2F 1F 6 6 1

Wren 1982 1983 1984 1985 2F 1986 2F 2F 18 4

Mocking Bird 1982 6E 1983 4E 1E 2E 1E 1984 1F 3E 3E 7E 1985 4E 8E 5E 1E 1E 1E 2F 1986 3E 6E 5E 1E 1E 2F 1E 18 24

House 1982 8F 1F 7E 1983 24F 6F 87F 27F 380F 1984 105F 22F 19F 5E 100F 10F 450F 46F 4F 79F 26F 30F 100F 11E 50F 1101 672

Finch 1982 8F 11E 4F 6E 35F 8F 41F 20F 12F 9F 4F 8F 15E 251 1983 36F 28F 11E 3E 2E 36F 6E 25F 10F 4E 37E 8F 6E 23F 1F 285

Comparison Chart for the 5-year March Bird Study

Final Report for 5-year March Winter-Bird Survey

Legend: E = Sighting at Feeder, E = Sighting Elsewhere

Total # of Birds: 443 1115 1673 1395 1400

Members: 26 37 39 26 23

Friends: 10 48 52 45 34

Total # of observers: 36 85 91 71 57

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THE PROTHONOTARY

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BUFFALO, NEW YORK

MAR 06 1987

IHACA, NY. 14853
NUMBER 10

VOLUME 52

OCTOBER 1986

THE MONTH

September was cloudy and generally mild with only 36% of possible sunshine, a sharp decrease from the month's normal average of 56%. In spite of the heavy cloud cover that characterized the weather for most of the month, the mortality rate among warblers and other passerine migrants striking the television towers on the higher elevations in southern Erie County in their nocturnal passage was remarkably low. Aside from a few days of unseasonably cold weather between September 13th and 17th, temperatures were normal and above for the rest of the month. The average temperature was 61.7°(F), .4° below the norm. Rainfall measured 3.88 inches, .51 inches above average, mostly in downpours during the last ten days of the month. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

The local ornithological scene was considerably enlivened in late September with the discovery of an adult female Peregrine Falcon which had become the temporary (and only) tenant of the Dun Building at the corner of Pearl and Swan Streets in downtown Buffalo. On September 23rd, an occupant of a downtown office near the Dun Building telephoned the Museum of Science to report this falcon which he had watched for several days and, according to workmen on a nearby construction project, the bird had been in the vicinity for several weeks sustaining itself on the local Rock Dove population. At 7:40 a.m. on September 26th, B.O.S. members David and Debbie Sugg saw two large Falconiform raptors flying in heavy fog over the Prudential Building at Pearl and Church Streets in Buffalo. In the brief glimpse he had of these birds in his binoculars, Sugg was unable to see any characters to distinguish them as to species but upon viewing the Peregrine Falcon on the Dun Building on the following day, he feels certain it was one of these birds. In any case, on the morning of September 24th, the writer received a telephone call from Bob Andrie advising that B.O.S.

member Dick Byron had located the bird earlier on this date, well concealed on its roosting place under the north cornice of the Dun Building roof, an aerie which afforded it a wide vista to detect and pursue any hapless Rock Dove or starling in flight between Main Street and the Niagara Thruway. The writer joined Andrie and Michael Levy, outdoor columnist of the Buffalo News at the corner of Pearl and Swan Streets at noon on the 24th and saw the falcon, still perched under the cornice. We were joined by a few curious passers-by and all present were thrilled to watch this bird fly off and wing its way majestically around the spires of St. Paul's Cathedral and down Church Street, disappearing for a moment behind the Erie County Hall before returning to its perch. The following morning, an account of the falcon's presence appeared in the Buffalo News and for the next few days most of the active bird-watchers in the area and many other curious citizens gathered at the intersection of Pearl and Swan Streets hoping for a glimpse of this rare visitor. On September 26th, the excitement mounted when the female Peregrine was joined by a smaller male, apparently a migrant. It remained with our celebrity through the following day when both falcons were observed flying around the upper floors of the Marine Midland Center and perched on the roof of that 38 story building. Late in the afternoon of September 28th, the writer and his wife and Bill and Olive Burch were among a group of spectators gathered at the northwest corner of the Dun Building when the female Peregrine obliged us with a dazzling display of aerobatics precipitated by the arrival of an adult American Kestrel which had the temerity to perch on a window sill of the building several floors below. The Peregrine pursued this interloper for several moments around the Dun Building and neighboring structures before the kestrel, no mean flyer itself, eluded it. The Peregrine was reported on the roof of the Key Bank Building at Main and Swan Streets that evening but it was not seen again before month's end. Several observers remarked that they saw a red band on the tarsus of the falcon's right leg, an identification marker of the Canadian Peregrine Restoration Project in Alberta which, as noted in the August issue of this newsletter, indicates our bird is of the race Falco peregrinus anatum, the subspecies formerly resident in northeastern North America and which hopefully will again be a breeding species in our study area.

The first formal B.O.S. field trip to Hawk Cliff, the famous promontory on the shore of Lake Erie at Port Stanley, Ontario took place over the weekend of September 12th-14th. Meteorological conditions favored the event as the only significant cold front of the month shifted the winds to west-northwest on the 12th and then northerly before becoming southerly on the afternoon of the 14th, the date of the only significant Broad-winged Hawk flight of the trip - 2004 birds. The lack of broadwings notwithstanding, the trip was very successful as participants were rewarded with the sight of three Bald Eagles and two Merlins among the sharpies, harriers and Ospreys on the 13th and four Bald Eagles and a Merlin on the following day. Of interest was the unusual underwing pattern of one of the immature eagles on the 13th, all white primary feathers in addition to the characteristic white wing linings. This unusual color pattern made this eagle easily identifiable when it flew over the hawk lookout at Holiday Beach Provincial Park on Lake Erie near Amherstburg in Essex

County, Ontario, 140 miles to the west, later that day. Two members of the field trip, Frances Rew and Lois Buck went on to Holiday Beach on September 15th and spent a thrilling 11 hours at the lookout on the 16th. On that day, Rew and Buck counted 38,318 raptors including 37,840 Broad-winged Hawks! Rew's notes indicate 14,817 broadwings passed the lookout between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m. and 14,780 broadwings between 4:00 and 5:00 p.m. Indeed, between 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. when they finally quit the watch, they counted 2,680 broadwings.

Thanks to the field activity of two local observers, Blayne Farnan of Port Colborne and Brad Clements of Welland, Niagara Peninsula shorebird enthusiasts were no longer hostage to the high water levels on the north shore of Lake Erie in viewing these passage waders in September. In late August, Clements reported two Red-necked Phalaropes from a small pond on a landfill forming the east bank of the Lake Erie entrance to the Welland Canal at Port Colborne. This pond and an inlet from the lake a few yards to the east of it have proved an attractive habitat for migrating shorebirds, an area apparently unaffected by the high water levels of Lake Erie itself. On September 1st, three Red-necked Phalaropes were at the pond where they were joined by two White-rumped Sandpipers on the 3rd. On September 9th, three Whimbrel were seen at this location and on the 14th, Bob Andrie and his party saw two Baird's Sandpipers there. On September 17th, Bruce Chilton and Art Schaffner saw perhaps the most exciting shorebird of the migration at the pond, a Western Sandpiper feeding with a flock of eight Baird's Sandpipers on a gravel and sand spit. The Western was in changing plumage but the observers distinguished it from its more common congener, the Semipalmated Sandpiper by its diagnostic rusty colored scapulars, long curved bill with a noticeable 'droop' at the tip. The landfill itself is located on the property of the Algoma Steamship Company Ltd.; it can be reached by following a gravel road off of Lake Street on the east side of the Welland Canal to the company boundary where there is a wheelhouse from a lake freighter housing a guard at the entrance. Permission must be obtained to enter.

Other shorebird records of interest include an unverified report of a Hudsonian Godwit on the Bird Island Pier at Buffalo on September 3rd and another Whimbrel, seen at LaSalle Park in Buffalo by Bruce Chilton on the 17th. September also produced an unusually high number of records of Red-necked Phalaropes on the Niagara River, both below and above the Peace Bridge between Fort Erie and Buffalo.

An early migrant Red-necked Grebe was seen by Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter on the choppy waters of Lake Ontario near the mouth of the Niagara River on September 20th. The pale reddish foreneck and dark gray crown and nape bordering large white cheek patches identified it as an adult bird in changing plumage. Up to 16 Great Egrets were seen by Don Endres at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge during September. He saw 13 egrets at the refuge on the 6th, 27th and 29th with the number increased to 16 on the 28th. On September 7th, 13 Great Egrets were reported from the National Wildlife Refuge at the Montezuma Swamp in Central New York where the species is now occurring regularly each summer as well. September was also remarkable

for the number of early migrant Ring-necked Ducks observed, the high count being 14 birds observed by Endres on the 23rd at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge; single ducks of this species were also seen at Tiffet Farm Nature Preserve on the 21st and at Dunkirk Harbor on the 27th. An early Oldsquaw was seen at the Algoma Pond at Port Colborne by Bruce Chilton and Art Schaffner on September 17th. The duck appeared to be an adult male in moult and presumably the same individual seen there by Willie D'Anna and his party one week later. Following the cold front on the 12th, large flocks of migrating Canada Geese were seen in all parts of our study area. There was very little to excite the gull-watchers among us in September. Aside from the cold front over the weekend of the 12th-14th, the weather pattern was rather flat and not conducive to blowing in rare rarids. Bob Andrie and the writer saw an immature Franklin's Gull on the Niagara River at Fort Erie on the 11th, possibly the same bird seen there several times until month's end. Only one immature Little Gull could be found among the myriad Bonaparte's and Ring-billed Gulls in the Black Rock Canal and the North Harbor at LaSalle Park in Buffalo. where, in contrast, several Forster's Terns were in evidence at that location all month.

Finally, on September 15th, Vivian Pitzrick was in the garden of her residence at Amity Lake in the Town of Belmont in Allegany County when she heard the now familiar but uncommon "crrroak" call of the Common Raven. Scanning the skies, Mrs. Pitzrick located a large corvid flying to the southwest just above tree level along a ridge to the north of her property. The bird repeated the hoarse call as it flew, flapping and soaring in the flight pattern characteristic of ravens. Although she did not have binoculars at the time of the observation, Mrs. Pitzrick is confident that she had seen a Common Raven, now a permanent, if infrequently seen, resident species in Allegany County.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Ave., Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

SEPTEMBER 1986 NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the "Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario" (B.O.S. 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Red-necked Grebe	September	<u>20</u> F	1	Fort Niagara SP	D'Anna, Potter
D.-Crest. Cormorant	"	<u>6</u>	1	Lewiston Reservoir	Cooper
Least Bittern	"	7,23	1,1	Tiffet Farm NP	Chilton
Great Egret	"	1-30	1-16	Iroquois NWR	Endres

Great Egret	September	7	1 Tifft Farm NP	Chilton
	"	9	1 Tifft Farm NP	W&M Barber
	"	10	1 Tifft Farm NP	Watson
	"	21	3 Tifft Farm NP	D'Anna, Potter
	"	28	15 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
Canada Goose	17F, 18, 22	75, 100, 75,	over Darien	Harper
	24, 27, 28	75, 1350, 500		
	"	27	64 Pomfret Twp.	Moshers
	"	28, 29	50 Amity Lake	Pitzrick et al
Northern Pintail	"	20F	1 Yates Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
Northern Shoveler	"	6F	1 Tifft Farm NP	Andrle et al
	"	27	5 Iroquois NWR	Endres
Ring-necked Duck	"	21F	1 Tifft Farm NP	D'Anna
	"	27	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Sundell
	"	28	8 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna
Oldsquaw	"	17F	1 Pt. Colborne, Ont	Chilton, Schaffner
	"	27	1 Pt. Colborne, Ont	D'Anna et al
White-w. Scoter	"	28F	5 Lakeside Beach SP	D'Anna, Potter
Common Merganser	"	14F	11 Pt. Colborne, Ont	Andrle et al
	"	17	1 Pt. Colborne, Ont	Chilton
Red-br. Merganser	"	14F	3 Pt. Colborne, Ont	Andrle et al
Osprey		12 reports throughout the region.		
Bald Eagle	"	13	1(adult) City Tonawanda	Hess
Northern Harrier	"	7	1 Dunnville Twp, Ont	Andrle et al
	"	30	1 Angelica Twp.	D&L Burton
Cooper's Hawk	"	10	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	12	1 E. Aurora	Andrle, Gregory
	"	25	1 Silver Creek	Neveu
Red-should. Hawk	"	24	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
*Peregrine Falcon	"	24	1(adult) Buffalo	Andrle et al
	"	27	2(adults) Buffalo	D&D Suggs
Black-bell. Plover	"	20	2 Yates Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
L. Golden Plover	"	7	1 Pt. Colborne, Ont	Andrle et al
	"	29	3 Eden Twp.	Andrle
Whimbrel	"	17	1 LaSalle Pk, Bflo	Chilton
Ruddy Turnstone	"	12	5 Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers
*Red Knot	"	14F	1 Pt. Colborne, Ont	Cooper et al
	"	20	1 LaSalle Pk, Bflo	Chilton
*Western Sandpiper	"	17	1 Pt. Colborne, Ont	Chilton, Schaffner
White-r. Sandpiper	"	7F	2 Pt. Colborne, Ont	Andrle et al
	"	7F	2 Wainfleet Twp, Ont	Andrle et al
*Baird's Sandpiper	"	14F	2 Pt. Colborne, Ont	Andrle et al
	"	14F	1 Dunnville Twp, Ont	Andrle et al
	"	17	8 Pt. Colborne, Ont	Chilton
Dunlin	"	14	1 Pt. Colborne, Ont	Cooper et al
Stilt Sandpiper	"	11	1 LaSalle Pk, Bflo	Chilton
Red-neck. Phalarope	"	9	5 LaSalle Pk, Bflo	Andrle, Foster
	"	11	7 LaSalle Pk, Bflo	Chilton
	"	11	2 LaSalle Pk, Bflo	D&D Suggs
	"	12	2 LaSalle Pk, Bflo	D'Anna et al
*Franklin's Gull	"	11F	1 Fort Erie, Ont	Andrle et al
	"	21	1 LaSalle Pk, Bflo	Chilton
	"	25	1 Niagara River	Chilton
	"	27	1 Waverly Beach, Ont	D'Anna, Potter

Little Gull	September	9	1	LaSalle Pk,Bflo	Andrle,Foster
"	"	20	1	LaSalle Pk,Bflo	D&D Suggs
"	"	20-25	1	LaSalle Pk,Bflo	Chilton
Caspian Tern	"	20	1	Ft. Niagara SP	D'Anna,Potter
"	"	27L	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher,Sundell
Forster's Tern	"	4-23	1-6	LaSalle Pk,Bflo	Chilton
"	"	7	4	LaSalle Pk,Bflo	Andrle et al
"	"	10	1	LaSalle Pk,Bflo	Watson
Black Tern	"	4	30	LaSalle Pk,Bflo	Chilton
Common Nighthawk	"	1	4	Gerry	W&M Barber
"	"	1	50	Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
"	"	1	52	Tonawanda Twp.	Watson
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	19	1	Lewiston Twp.	Cooper
Yellow-b.Sapsucker	"	7	1	Wales	O. Rosche
"	"	8,12	1,1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	14	1	Morgan's Pt.Ont	D'Anna,Potter
"	"	15	1	Belmont	D&L Burton
"	"	27	3	Pt. Gratiot	Mosher,Sundell
Yellow-b.Flycatcher	"	1F	1	Tifft Farm NP	D'Anna,Potter
Least Flycatcher	"	24L	1	Cheektowaga	O'Dell
Great Cr.Flycatcher	"	21L	1	Tifft Farm NP	D'Anna et al
*Common Raven	"	15	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	8F-29	1	Silver Creek	Neveu
"	"	12,13,16	1,1,1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Brown Creeper	"	13	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	26F	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	"	27	4	Pt. Gratiot	Mosher
Carolina Wren	"	28	1	Eden	Andrle
Winter Wren	"	13,15	1,1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	26,27	1	Lewiston Twp.	Cooper
"	"	28	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Marsh Wren	"	23	2	Tifft Farm NP	Chilton
Golden-cr.Kinglet	"	20F	6	Porter Twp.	D'Anna,Potter
"	"	22-30	2-6	Wales	O. Rosche
Ruby-cr.Kinglet	"	3F	1	Snyder	D&D Suggs
"	"	9	1	Tonawanda Twp.	Watson
"	"	10	1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson
Eastern Bluebird	"	1	2	Fort Niagara SP	D'Anna et al
"	"	1-30	2-15	Amity Lake&Twp.	Pitzrick
"	"	18	2-4	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	"	30	2	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	"	30	1	W. Almond Twp.	D&L Burton
Veery	"	14L	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Gray-ch.Thrush	"	6F,26,27	2,1,1	Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
"	"	25	1	Tifft Farm NP	Chilton
Swainson's Thrush	"	10	1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson
"	"	26	1	Depew	W&M Barber
Hermit Thrush	"	8F,13	2,1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	19	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Brown Thrasher	"	9	1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson
Water Pipit	"	14F	1	Pt.Colborne,Ont	Cooper et al
"	"	17	2	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Solitary Vireo	"	28F	1	Lake Erie SP	Mosher
Warbling Vireo	"	28L	1	Lake Erie SP	Mosher

Philadelphia Vireo	September 1	1 Fort Niagara SP	D'Anna et al
"	" 7	1 Fort Niagara SP	Endres
"	" 10	1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
"	" 14	1 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Blue-w. Warbler	" 8L	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Yellow-r. Warbler	" 6-30	1-11 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Bl.-thr. Green Warb.	" 10	1 Tifft Farm NP	Watson
Palm Warbler	" 9F	1 Tonawanda Twp.	Watson
"	" 14	1 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
"	" 17,24,30	1 Silver Creek	Neveu
"	" 25	10 Allegany SP	Watson
N. Waterthrush	" 13	1 Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
"	" 22	1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	" 26	1 Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Hooded Warbler	" 16	1 Silver Creek	Neveu
"	" 23	1 Tifft Farm NP	Chilton
Wilson's Warbler	" 10	2 Tifft Farm NP	Watson
White-thr. Sparrow	" 6F	2 Tifft Farm NP	D'Anna, Potter
"	" 18-30	1-4 Wales	O. Rosche
White-cr. Sparrow	" 28F	1 Lake Erie SP	Mosher
Purple Finch	" 8,13,24	4,4,5 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
"	" 24	1 Silver Creek	Neveu

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....261
 Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue..... 6
 Total for year.....267

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Report of the October Bird Count

Date: October 12, 1986

Compiler: Ellen M. Schoop

Weather: The temperature for the day was reported to range from 45 degrees (F) to a high of 67 degrees. It was a mostly sunny day with periods of clouds and overcast skies. There was no precipitation reported. The winds from the south south-west, ranging from 5-20 m.p.h., had its affect on the birds as they were not venturing from cover.

Compilation: The following is a list of species recorded on the count and the number of each. When a species was recorded in three or fewer sections, the B.O.S. section numbers appear in parentheses. An underlined species indicates that an acceptable written verification report was submitted and will be placed in the files of the B.O.S.

Report of October Bird Count, cont.

Loons - Ruddy Duck

Common Loon - 63	Blue-winged Teal - 13 (3,13)
Pied-billed Grebe - 62	Northern Shoveler - 9 (5,26)
Horned Grebe - 22	Gadwall - 19 (5,10,23)
DbI.-crest Cormorant - 11 (2,8)	Amer. Wigeon - 445
American Bittern - 2 (5)	Redhead - 196 (8,10,21)
Great Blue Heron - 92	Ring-necked Duck - 53
Great Egret - 2 (5)	Greater Scaup - 1445
Green-backed Heron - 8	Lesser Scaup - 4269
Bl.-cr. Night-Heron - 3 (9,11)	Oldsquaw - 1 (3)
<u>Sandhill Crane</u> - 2 (2)	Black Scoter - 2 (20)
Tundra Swan - 5 (23)	Surf Scoter - 9 (8)
Snow Goose - 1 (12)	White-winged Scoter - 34
Canada Goose - 4658	Common Goldeneye - 1 (2)
Wood Duck - 214	Hooded Merganser - 52 (2,5,22)
Green-winged Teal - 18	Common Merganser - 14
Amer. Black Duck - 96	Red-br. Merganser - 16
Mallard - 1930	Ruddy Duck - 49 (1,5,21)
Northern Pintail - 17	

Vultures - Rails

Turkey Vulture - 111	Rough-legged Hawk - 4
Osprey - 5	Amer. Kestrel - 70
Bald Eagle - 2 (Adult) (10)	Ring-necked Pheasant - 19
Northern Harrier - 46	Ruffed Grouse - 44
Sharp-shinned Hawk - 21	Wild Turkey - 50
Cooper's Hawk - 9	Sora - 1 (5)
Red-shouldered Hawk - 6	Common Moorhen - 2 (10,11)
Red-tailed Hawk - 138	Amer. Coot - 439

Plovers - Terns

Black-bellied Plover - 3 (15)	Baird's Sandpiper - 1 (7)
Lesser Golden-Plover - 4 (14)	Pectoral Sandpiper - 30
Killdeer - 816	Dunlin - 96
Greater Yellowlegs - 35	Common Snipe - 72
Lesser Yellowlegs - 8	Amer. Woodcock - 17
Solitary Sandpiper - 1 (25)	Bonaparte's Gull - 1024
Ruddy Turnstone - 1 (14)	Ring-billed Gull - 17,744
Sanderling - 10 (2,8)	Herring Gull - 2991
Semipalmated Sandpiper - 14(2,7,15)	Great Bl.-backed Gull - 113
Least Sandpiper - 2 (7,14)	Common Tern - 91 (2,8,9)

Doves - Swallows

Rock Dove - 2765	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 3(18,20,26)
Mourning Dove - 1378	Downy Woodpecker - 222
Eastern Screech Owl - 11	Hairy Woodpecker - 54
Great Horned Owl - 15	Northern Flicker - 113
Barred Owl - 1 (21)	Pileated Woodpecker - 17

Report of October Bird Count, cont.

Doves - Swallows, cont.

Short-eared Owl - 1 (7)	Eastern Wood-Pewee - 1 (13)
Common Nighthawk - 3 (20)	Eastern Phoebe - 27
Chimney Swift - 4 (8)	Horned Lark - 55
Belted Kingfisher - 45	Horned Lark (<u>E.a.alpestris</u>)-9 (2)
Red-headed Woodpecker - 7	Tree-Swallow - 976
Red-bellied Woodpecker - 4(3,13)	No. Rough-winged Swallow - 15 (2)

Jays - Starlings

Blue Jay - 1641	Eastern Bluebird - 166
Amer. Crow - 3158	Gray-cheeked Thrush - 1 (6)
Bl.-capped Chickadee - 1631	Swainson's Thrush - 4 (1,4,11)
Tufted Titmouse - 1 (20)	Hermit Thrush - 12
Red-br. Nuthatch - 34	Wood Thrush - 1 (13)
White-br. Nuthatch - 188	Amer. Robin - 3223
Brown Creeper - 42	Gray Catbird - 19
Carolina Wren - 2 (14,28)	Northern Mockingbird - 20
House Wren - 1 (6)	Brown Thrasher - 2 (19,23)
Winter Wren - 8	Water Pipit - 25 (15)
Marsh Wren - 5 (5,10)	Cedar Waxwing - 1517
Golden-cr. Kinglet - 368	Loggerhead Shrike - 1 (28)
Ruby-cr. Kinglet - 122	European Starling - 35,816

Vireos - Warblers

Solitary Vireo - 3 (23,24)	Yellow-rumped Warbler - 544
Red-eyed Vireo - 2 (14,28)	Bl.-throated Green Warbler - 1 (4)
Nashville Warbler - 1 (8)	Bay-breasted Warbler - 1 (8)
Chestnut-sided Warbler - 3 (8)	Ovenbird - 1 (23)
Magnolia Warbler - 3 (9,19)	Common Yellowthroat - 2 (8,26)
Cape May Warbler - 2 (21)	Wilson's Warbler - 1 (7)
Bl.-throated Blue Warbler - 1 (2)	Canada Warbler - 1 (8)

Cardinals - House Sparrows

Northern Cardinal - 319	Wh.-throated Sparrow - 578
Rose-br. Grosbeak - 4 (3,17,27)	Wh.-crowned Sparrow - 164
Indigo Bunting - 3 (9)	Dark-eyed Junco - 1572
Rugous-sided Towhee - 35	Red-winged Blackbird - 9206
Amer. Tree Sparrow - 15 (15)	Eastern Meadowlark - 260
Chipping Sparrow - 233	Rusty Blackbird - 388
Field Sparrow - 99	Common Grackle - 11,585
Vesper Sparrow - 23	Brown-headed Cowbird - 2033
Savannah Sparrow - 53	Purple Finch - 141
Fox Sparrow - 8	House Finch - 1059
Song Sparrow - 777	Pine Siskin - 14 (1,9,27)
Lincoln's Sparrow - 8 (6,22,24)	Amer. Goldfinch - 1232
Swamp Sparrow - 76	House Sparrow - 3851

Report of October Bird Count, cont.

Total Species Observed - 159

Individuals Observed and Identified - 125,909

Unidentified Ducks - 9

Unidentified Gulls - 15

Total Individuals Observed - 125,933

Comparisons - The 1986 October Bird Count was compared with past October counts, dating back to 1935.

Loons - Ruddy Duck - Of special interest are the two Sandhill Cranes seen in section #2 - they are the first ever for the count. Great Egrets have not been reported since 1939, but this year we had two in section #5. The 196 Redheads give us a new 50 year high; the Common Loon, 63 seen, are the most since 1956; the American Bittern equals its previous 10 year high of 2; and the Wood Ducks are at a 5 year high. Of a sad note, Mallards are at a 4 year low, Blue-winged Teal are the lowest since 1968, and the American Black Duck, 96, are at an all-time low. The next lowest figure was 118 in 1973.

Vultures - Rails - The fall count produced the highest number of Turkey Vultures ever. Unfortunately, the count tallied the lowest number of Ring-necked Pheasants since we began doing the count.

Plovers - Terns - For the first time in 16 years we recorded a Baird's Sandpiper. In 1970, we had 2 reported. Bonaparte's Gulls dipped a little to a new 10 year low.

Doves - Swallows - The 2,765 Rock Doves reported is the lowest in 4 years. It makes me wonder if everyone is counting them, or refusing to acknowledge them!?! Belted Kingfisher and Red-bellied Woodpecker are both low for the 10 year period. However, for both the Pileated Woodpecker and the Eastern Screech Owl, it was the second highest count in the past 10 years. Not having been reported in 5 years, we recorded 4 Chimney Swifts. A 15 year high for Tree Swallows, and a 20 year high for Horned Larks (*E.a. alpestris*) was noted.

Jays - Starlings - One Loggerhead Shrike sighting was a first in 10 years. The highest number of Eastern Bluebirds since 1972 is encouraging news. Black-capped Chickadees continue to rise, as they are at a 16 year high. At a 6 year low are White-breasted Nuthatch, it's a 7 year low for Tufted Titmouse, and a 13 year low for Water Pipit. However, low figures need not always be upsetting - 5,644 fewer European Starlings were counted for this year.

Vireos - Warblers - The Ovenbird is a first since 1980 and the Canada Warbler is a first in 14 years for this count. The Common Yellowthroat is at a 19 year low.

Report of October Count, cont.

Cardinals - House Sparrows - A count of 8 Lincoln's Sparrows is the second highest in 10 years. There is a 7 year high for Eastern Meadowlarks and the Indigo Buntings equal their 19 year high of 3 in 1967.

Sections and observers - Thanks to our members and friends who participated in this count. Being that this was my first count as a compiler, I was glad that I had volunteers for every section and that the reports were returned promptly. A special thanks to those observers from other bird clubs or outlying areas for their support. This count was enjoyable to work on and was successful in its results. The names of the section compilers have been underlined.

1. Fonthill, Ont.: Gary Novosel
2. Thorold, Ont.: David Suggs, Debra Suggs, Arthur Schaffner, Allan Veal, Margaret Veal, Howard Martin
3. Wilson, N.Y.: Harriette & Walter Klabunde, Nickerson Hinckley
4. Middleport, N.Y.: Robert Brock
5. Oak Orchard, N.Y.: Dick Christensen, Peggy Christensen, Bill Burch, Morgan Jones, Marion Smith
6. Port Maitland, Ont.: Ed Williams, Gerald Chapple
7. Lowbanks, Ont.: Blayne Farnan, Robert Andrie, Brad Clements, Dr. & Mrs. White
8. Fort Erie, Ont.: Sharon Sisti, Kathleen Hentz, Penny Eudy-Marren
9. Grand Island, N.Y.: Karen Renning, Roberta McDonald, Edward Crohn, Mary Ann Stegmeier, Marge Wright, Jack Wright
10. Akron, N.Y.: Willie D'Anna, Betsy Potter, Don Roberson
11. Buffalo, N.Y.: Charles and Barbara Halvorsen
12. Lancaster, N.Y.: Marie Wendling, Dorothy Danner, Tom Harper, Ray Franz, Cy Wolfing
13. Batavia, N.Y.: Jane & Max Mason, David Keller, George Mahaney, Robert & Eileen Hull
14. Hamburg, N.Y.: Barbara Walker, Laura McDole, Barbara Howard, Grace O'Dell, Barbara & Ken Brandes, Pam McNeill, Phyllis Hansen, Ginny VanCise, Gertrude & Dave Maganern, Lucille Rautio, Clare Stahl, Evelyn & Bob Mausers, Mrs. Hunley, Karen & Joe Sutton

Report of October Bird Count, cont.

15. Java, N.Y.: Bill Bogacki, Esther Becker, Olga Rosche, Mike Zebehazy
16. Angola, N.Y.: Frances Rew, Lois Buck, Marion Dornhaffer
17. Cattaraugus, N.Y.: Maxine & Wavel Barber, Audrey Horbett, Pauline Schwartz
18. Delevan, N.Y.: Bruce Chilton, Stanley King, Brad Lown, Bill Watson
19. Fillmore, N.Y.: Allegany County Bird Club, Katherine Palmer, Scott Herdman, Mr. & Mrs. Howard Lang, Faye Clancy, Lois Harvey, Helen Morse, Mr. & Mrs. Roger Nicholson, Judy O'Banks, Jean Perry, Vesta Rice, Midge & H. K. Smith, Marion & Emmettee Smith, Alice Evans, Vic Carpenter, Larry Wilson, Mr. & Mrs. R.J. Wilson
20. Dunkirk, N.Y.: Lake Erie Bird Club, Terry Mahoney, Allen Benton Nancy Bowser, David Bryant, Sylvia Clarke, Jeanine Flory, Joe Gula, Jr., Joe Gula, Sr., Judy & Terry Mosher, Lucille Neveu, Beu & John Ruska, Marty Sansen, Doris & Tom Welch
21. Cherry Creek, N.Y.: Jamestown Audubon Society, Bob Sundell, Eileen Anderson, Dave Cooney, Dan Cordosi, Allen & Margaret Findlay, Julie Heilman, Fan Lapinski, Bill & Linda O'Brien, Dot Pihlblad, Carol Roby, Bill & Linda Seleen
22. Sherman, N.Y.: Jamestown Audubon Society, Bob Sundell, Dan Cordosi, Bill & Linda O'Brien
23. Frewsburg, N.Y.: Jamestown Audubon Society, Bob Sundell, Dan Cordosi, Steve, Chris & Jeremy Maggio, Joanne Nelson, Jean Pigman, Jim & Shirlea Roman, Tom Simmons
24. Salamanca and Allegany State Park, N.Y.: Cattaraugus County Bird Club, Tim Baird, Bill Forness
25. Allegany, N.Y.: Cattaraugus County Bird Club, Tim Baird, Lucille Bordonaro, Alene Church, Fred Meyer, Regina VanScoy, Meredith VanScoy, Ardyth VanScoy
26. Cuba, N.Y.: Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Lou Burton, Betty & John Compton, Bruce Smalley
27. Bolivar, N.Y.: Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Anne Griswold, Emma Lou King, Doris Hurlburt, Marjorie & Robert Richmond, Lillian & Stella Simons, Helen Link, Norman Ives
28. Alfred, N.Y.: Allegany County Bird Club, Anne Pipal, Clarence Klingensmith, Dorothy Bayless, Harold Ward, Vivian Pitzrick, Erma Larson, Carla Coch, Jim Copenheaver, Paul Culley, Ann Eisenhardt, Ellen Lamb, Kathy McDonald, Mary Ormsby, Ruth Paige, Suzanne Wood,

Report of October Bird Count, cont.

28. Alfred, N.Y., cont.

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Brink, Viola Ide, Jay & Louise Gibson, Fred Bayless, Esther Biehl, Wayne & Vivian Brownell, Martha DeLaVergne, Mildred Hayes, F. & B. Heller, Ed & Marjorie Mason, Bob & Marjorie Mason, Linn Phelan, Gladys & Allen Witter, Kathleen Kent, Bea Thompson, Alicia Ward, Charles Ward, Ezra Yarnell, Roy Yarnell, Doris & Lou Burton, Matthew Hotchkiss, Raymond Pitzrick, Roberta Clark, Dale & Evelyn Coats, Paul & Mary Alice Fuller, Robert & Claribel James, Ernest & Lynn Rositzke, Theodore & Lorena Vossler, Myrtle Brown, Mr. & Mrs. Carl Burdick, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Cronauer, Mrs. Arthur Downer, Mr. & Mrs. George Dunham, Mrs. Jack Frank, Mrs. Helen Graves, Evelyn T. Oenhym, Dick Shear, Mr. & Mrs. George Smith, Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Taggert, Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Taggert

Total Observers - 243

Ellen M. Schopp
177 Brighton Road
Tonawanda, N.Y. 14150

For Your Information

There is a new look to the Prothonotary. Due to circumstances beyond our control, we have been forced to secure a new means for printing the Prothonotary. The B.C.S. Council has taken the matter under consideration and is studying various options.

This issue has been produced by one of the methods under consideration. The format employed is also one which is being evaluated.

It is our hope that the Prothonotary can be produced in a manner which is both cost-effective and creatively pleasing. We appreciate your comments and suggestions.

Please Take Notice

The B.O.S. Council wishes to remind all B.O.S. members of their obligation to participate in the activities of the organization - including bird counts. Any participation - even if for only a couple of hours - will be a valuable and welcome contribution.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Membership changes:

Please add Apartment 15 to Nancie B. Greenman's new address.

Membersnip changes:

Frederick Harrington
10707 Lake Creek Parkway
Apt. 257
Austin, Texas 78750

MEETINGS

- Feb. 11 Bill Burch will explain everything a birder needs to know about TELESCOPES, including pointers on some of the newer models and brands on the market. Bring your scope to the meeting!
- Feb. 25 Betsy Potter, a BOS member and artist will present a program entitled "The Bird in Art - an artist and Birdwatcher's View".
- March 11 Bruce Chilton's topic for the evening will be "Bird Evolution". Join us for an interesting and informative evening.
- March 25 Mary Ellen Foley from St. Catherines, Ontario will present a program on the Peregrine Hacking Project at St. Cath-
erines, an interesting and rewarding program in which many BOS members may want to participate this year.
- April 8 VIREOS - a symposium on vireo species of our region pre-
sented by several members - to cover distinguishing
characteristics of appearance, song & habit, as well as
interesting aspects of behavior.

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

For further information, contact Morgan Jones, Program Committee Chairman (433-5687)

FIELD TRIPS

- Feb. 22 Sunday. Canadian Owl Trip. Meet at 11:30 a.m. at Vermont & Busti, near the entrance to the Peace Bridge, or at 11:45 in Fort Erie at the first waterfront parking lot south (up river) of the Peace Bridge. Leaders: Blayne Farnan and Wavel Barber (683-3061).
- March 1 Sunday. Lake Ontario plains around Lewiston, N.Y. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Tops Market in Lewiston.

Leaders: the Klabundes and Will D'Anna (1-731-4348).

- March 28 Saturday. Audubon Society trip to Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge for waterfowl. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Citibank in Transitown Plaza (S-E corner of Main and Transit). Leader: Bill Burch (773-3690).
- March 29 Sunday. BOS Trip to Iroquois Refuge for waterfowl. Meet 8:00 a.m. at Citibank in Transitown Plaza. Leader: Bill Burch (773-3690).
- April 4 Saturday (For Daylight Saving Time, set clock one hour ahead Saturday evening.)
- April 12 Sunday. April BOS Bird Count. For a territory contact the compiler TBA.
- April 18 Saturday (Not Sunday). Hawk Migration at Grimsby, Ont. (30 miles into Canada). Trip may include bluebirds plus shorebirds at Smithville lagoon. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge customs parking lot on the American side of the river for car pooling. Leader: TBA
Destination: Beamer Conservation Area on escarpment above Grimsby.
- April 26 Sunday. Braddock Bay Hawk Watch, joint trip with Rochester GOS. Meet at Citibank, Transitown Plaza, at 7:00 a.m. to join the GOS at 9:30 a.m. at the Braddock Bay park shelter. Besides hawks, this trip may find western meadowlark, Brewer's blackbird and others. Leaders: Mike Zebehazy (655-4777) and Bob Spahn of GOS.
- May 9 Saturday. Presque Isle and Pymatuning Weekend; joint trip with Buffalo Audubon Society. Call Mary Saville for reservations (662-5215). Note: Presque Isle is just beyond Erie, Pa., 80 miles from Buffalo. It is a warbler staging area and a hot spot at this season. A 1-day trip is well worth while.
- May 10 Sunday. Tifft Farm Nature Center and Times Beach. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in Tifft Farm parking lot. This is a half-day outing for warblers and other migrants. Leader: Bill Watson (695-2820).
- May 17 Sunday. May Bird Count of BOS. For a territory call the compiler Dave Cooper (284-4118).
- May 24 Sunday. Canadian shore of Lake Erie for shorebirds. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Vermont & Busti entrance to the Peace Bridge or at 7:30 a.m. at the first parking lot south of the bridge on the Canadian side.

May 29-31 Friday to Sunday. Allegany Nature Pilgrimage, sponsored by four nature clubs. Register by May 1. For information, call Tom Harper (1-547-9563). The Park at this time also is good for a one-day trip for nesting mourning and parula warblers, bluebirds, etc. The maintenance road running east from Red House lake and road near Bova ski area are good spots.

Usually these trips take most of a day, so a lunch should be brought. For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690), Grand Island, N.Y.

For current bird sightings, call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.
(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-a-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, N.Y. 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$10.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Barbara Halvorsen (typing)
Brad Lown (mailing)

EDITOR: Charles Halvorsen
9 Yale Place
Buffalo, N.Y. 14210
(716) 826-9247

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THE PROTHONOTARY

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BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

APR 02 1987

ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

VOLUME 52

NUMBER 11

THE B.O.S. AND CONSERVATION

What place should environmental and conservation matters have in the functioning of the Buffalo Ornithological Society? This question has arisen in the face of increasing requests for the Society's support from various concerned groups. The Buffalo Ornithological Society and its members are not indifferent to these areas of concern nor do we doubt the sincerity and good intentions of those seeking our support. Rather, the issue is one of priorities and the avowed purposes of the Society.

The requests which have been made of the BOS have generally involved nothing more than lending the Society's name and prestige to a particular cause. Occasionally, there has been a request for the Society to send a knowledgeable spokesperson to a public hearing. The work involved in connection with any given request is not that burdensome. It is the increasing number and frequency of such requests that is a concern to some members of the Society.

It is impossible to completely separate the interests of environmentalists/conservationists from those of birders. Proper care of the environment and wildlife is essential if we are to have birds to enjoy in the future. Many BOS members are active in other groups which also are concerned with these same issues. No one is suggesting that the Society turn its back on these critical matters.

It is not this writer's intention to make a judgment on this issue. Rather, it is merely my goal to make the members of BOS aware of this area of concern and encourage some reflection and discussion. One thought is that the influence of the Society might be diluted if its name were too freely given to various causes. Another idea for dealing with these matters is to refer all requests for support to the Conservation Committee. The committee could review these matters and report

briefly on them. This would ensure that important matters would be brought to the attention of the membership and action could be taken when appropriate. This would eliminate the need to discuss every request for support during our business meetings. Those individuals who are especially interested in conservation and environment would be encouraged to serve on the committee where they could be most involved and active.

This issue will be discussed at a future BOS meeting. Members are encouraged to consider this important topic and be ready to offer their feelings and insights.

By now, you may have noticed a change in the layout of the Prothonotary. This change has been made at the suggestion of the BOS Council in an effort to keep the Prothonotary more timely. None of our regular features have been eliminated. "The Month" and "Noteworthy Records" have been retained because of their historical importance. The Prothonotary welcomes submissions (typewritten if possible) on any relevant topics. Unfortunately, we cannot guaranty that everything will be used.

the Editor

THE MONTH - OCTOBER 1986

October was cloudy and wet with seasonal temperatures throughout the month. Although there were significant cold fronts on the 6th, 10th, 15th, and 30th, there was no corresponding increase in bird migratory activity apparent with the meteorological changes. The only major weather disturbance in October occurred on the 3rd when heavy rains (1.73 inches at Buffalo) caused local flooding in Western New York. The first frost of the season was recorded at Buffalo on October 11th and there were snow flurries in the higher elevations of the Southern Tier counties on the 14th. Average temperature for the month was 50.9°(F) , a departure of -0.6° from the norm. Rainfall at Buffalo measured 4.34 inches, 1.4 inches above average. (Meteorological data as recorded at the Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

October was not remarkable for exciting bird observations in our study area. Indeed, it was one of the poorer Octobers for records of rare or unusual birds. Aside from Gordon Bellerby's sighting of a Franklin's Gull at Niagara Falls on October 30th and an immature Sabine's Gull in the lower Niagara River at Queenston on that date, gull watchers found little to stimulate their interest. The most noteworthy record of the month was probably that of two Sandhill Cranes seen on the Society's October Bird Count on the 12th. On that date, David and Debra Suggs and Art Schaffner saw these cranes flying in a westerly direction over a field a short distance from the Niagara District Airport on the Carlton

Road near St. Catharines, Ontario. It was the first time this species has been recorded on this census. The birds, flying wingtip to wingtip had the diagnostic cruciform configuration of long, straight neck, wings and trailing legs characteristic of the Gruidae and their generally gray coloration with visibly lighter gray crowns and cheek patches identified them as two Sandhill Cranes, one noticeably larger than the other and probably a male and female pair.

The last Great Egret of the season was seen by Don Endres at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on October 13th. He reported up to four egrets there from the first of the month until that date. Bill Watson saw two Great Egrets at the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve in Buffalo on October 5th. A Snow Goose of unspecified color phase was reported at the Iroquois Refuge on the date of the Society's bird count on the 12th. Vivian Pitzrick recovered a dead Snow Goose at Amity Lake in the Town of Amity in Allegany County on the 27th. The weekend of October 25th saw a major movement of waterfowl through our study area. Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter counted 30 migrating Common Loons and 4000 Lesser Scaup ducks on Lake Ontario in the Town of Porter in Niagara County on the 25th while Terry Mosher and Bruce Chilton saw a flock of 200 American Coots at Mayville on Chautauqua Lake on that date. One-hundred eleven Turkey Vultures, a record high number, were reported on the October Bird Count on the 12th. The first Rough-legged Hawks of the season were also seen on that date; Rough-legs were unusually common in our study area this month. Only one Merlin was reported, an immature bird seen by Bob and Pat Andrie on October 13th. This falcon was observed flying low over a pasture on the Bauer Road in the Town of Eden where it flushed a large flock of Brown-headed Cowbirds but it was unsuccessful in its attempt to take one. The Merlin then turned and made a second flight over the pasture, this time causing two Mourning Doves to take wing; the doves also managed to elude its stoop. The female Peregrine Falcon, which so pleasantly diverted us with its presence in downtown Buffalo in September, was seen again on several occasions in October. It continued to occupy a perch under the cornice of the northwest corner of the roof of the Dun building and it was also seen in flight over several locations within a two block area of that site.

Dave Keller and Gail Seamans reported a Hudsonian Godwit among a small flock of shorebirds at a pond at the Genesee County Airport in the Town of Batavia on October 14th. As noted, the compiler did not receive any reports of unusual gulls meriting further comment here. Mention must be made, however, of a sighting of a Loggerhead Shrike in Allegany County during the October 12th bird count, the first record for the count in ten years and only the fourth for our study area in that time frame. Vivian Pitzrick reported a late Rose-breasted Grosbeak in a flock of passerine migrants at Amity Lake on October 27th.

Finally, the first significant movement of winter finches into Western New York occurred during the weekend of October 25th. The first Snow Buntings and a flock of White-winged Crossbills were reported from Chautauqua County on the 25th and 120 Pine Siskins were seen between Wilson and Olcott on Lake Ontario in Niagara County on that date.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Ave., Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

OCTOBER 1986 NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the "Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario" (BOS 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
 F - Indicates first record for the migration.
 L - Indicates last record for the migration.
 (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

<u>Name of Bird</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Common Loon	5F	1	over Tifft Farm NP	D'Anna et al
	25	1	Pt. Gratiot	Mosher, Chilton
	25	2	Barcelona	Mosher, Chilton
	25	30+	Porter Twp., L. Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
	26	6	Lowbanks, Ont.	D&D Suggs
Horned Grebe	25	3	Porter Twp., L. Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
D.-crest. Cormorant	26	6	Rock Point PP	D&D Suggs
American Bittern	19	2	Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
Great Egret	5	2	Tifft Farm NP	Watson et al
	5	3	Iroquois NWR	Wagner
	5-13L	1-4	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Black-cr. Night Heron	4	1	Tifft Farm NP	Chilton
	5, 18	1, 1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson
	22	3	Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Gula
Snow Goose	27	1 (dead)	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Green-w. Teal	5F	1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson
	19	2	Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
Amer. Black Duck	19	30	Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
Northern Shoveler	5, 18	5, 1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson et al
	19	1	Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
Gadwall	5F	3	Tifft Farm NP	Watson et al
	19	1	Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
American Wigeon	19	1	Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
	25	59	Chautauqua Twp.	Mosher, Chilton
Canvasback	25F	10	Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Potter
Redhead	5F	1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson et al
	7	2	Buffalo Harbor	Chilton
Ring-necked Duck	19	1	Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
Greater Scaup	18	8	Tifft Farm NP	Watson
	22	60	Crescent Park, Ont	Schaffner
Lesser Scaup	4	40	Lewiston Reservoir	D'Anna, Potter
Oldsquaw	25	1	Fort Niagara SP	D'Anna, Potter
	26	1	Lowbanks, Ont.	D&D Suggs
*Black Scoter	7F	1	Buffalo Harbor	Chilton
	18	1	Buffalo Harbor	Watson
Surf Scoter	7F	10	Buffalo Harbor	Chilton
	18	2	Buffalo Harbor	Watson
White-w. Scoter	4	5	Lewiston Reservoir	D'Anna, Potter

<u>Name of Bird</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Bufflehead	25F	3	Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Potter
	25F	2	Porter Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
Hooded Merganser	19	1	Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
	25	17	Chautauqua Twp.	Mosher, Chilton
Red-br. Merganser	25	7	Porter Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
Ruddy Duck	4F, 19	3, 10	Lewiston Reservoir	D'Anna, Potter
	5	1	Iroquois NWR	Wagner
	19	1	Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
	25	14	Mayville	Mosher, Chilton
	31	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher et al
Osprey	5	1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson et al
	25L	1	Lewiston Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
Bald Eagle	22	1 (adult)	over Erie Beach, Ont	Schaffner
Northern Harrier	19	3	Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
	25	1	Westfield Twp.	Mosher, Chilton
	25	1	Charlotte Twp.	Andrle et al
Sharp-sn. Hawk	4	1	Tifft Farm NP	Chilton
	5	2	Tifft Farm NP	Watson et al
	13	1	Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
Cooper's Hawk	5	1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson
	23	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	24	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	30	1	Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
Rough-leg. Hawk	22	2	Niag.-on-the-Lake	Endres
	25	1	Sheridan Twp.	Andrle et al
	26	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Merlin	13	1	Eden Twp.	Andrles
Peregrine Falcon	22	1	Buffalo	Andrle, Byron
	24	1	Buffalo	Schaffner
Virginia Rail	5L	1	Tifft Farm NP	D&D Suggs
Common Moorhen	19	2	Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
American Coot	25	200	Mayville	Mosher, Chilton
Black-b. Plover	19	1	Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
Golden Plover	5	10	Clarence Sod Farm	Wagner
	13, 14	1, 3	Eden Twp.	Andrle
Greater Yellowlegs	22	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	(Latest of 4 reports.)			
Lesser Yellowlegs	14	1	Batavia	Keller, Seamans
Solitary Sandpiper	5	1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson et al
Ruddy Turnstone	5	1	LaSalle Park, Bflo	Watson
Pectoral Sandpiper	12, 15	4, 4	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	(Latest of 6 reports.)			
Unlin	15	3	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	18	21	Eden Twp.	Andrle
Common Snipe	1	2	Tonawanda Twp.	Watson
	19	10	Iroquois NWR	Christensen (BOS)
Franklin's Gull	30	1	Niagara Falls	Bellerby
Little Gull	16, 21	1, 1	Fort Niagara SP	Chilton
	30	1	Queenston, Ont.	Bellerby
Himney Swift	5	40	LaSalle Park, Bflo	Hess
	7	1	Buffalo	Schaffner

Vol. 52, No. 11 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

<u>Name of Bird</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	1-31	1	Lewiston Twp.(f)	Cooper
	19	2	Iroquois NWR	Christensen(BOS)
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	24	1	Wales	O. Rosche
	(Latest of 6 reports.)			
Eastern Wood-Pewee	5	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Tree Swallow	5	1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson et al
N. Rough-w. Swallow	20	8	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Endres
Tufted Titmouse	1	1	Silver Creek(f)	Neveu
	1-31	2	Lewiston Twp.(f)	Cooper
	4	1-2	Fort Niagara SP	D'Anna, Potter
Red-br. Nuthatch		7 reports throughout the region.		
Carolina Wren	20	1	Belmont	L&D Burton
	20, 24	1	Thunder Bay, Ont.	Klepfer
House Wren	1	1	Tonawanda Twp.	Watson
Winter Wren	2	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	16	1	Amity Lake	V&R Pitzrick
	18	1	Erie Beach, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
Marsh Wren	5	1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson et al
Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	11L	1	Grand Island	King
Eastern Bluebird	12, 24	1, 3	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	20	45	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Gray-ch. Thrush	2	1	Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
	4	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	11	4	Ellicottville	Watson
Swainson's Thrush	5	2	Tonawanda Twp.	Hess
North. Mockingbird	13	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
Brown Thrasher	1	1	Tonawanda Twp.	Watson et al
	5	2	Tifft Farm NP	Watson et al
Water Pipit	5	8	Clarence Sod Farm	Wagner
	14	45	Eden Twp.	Andrie
	19	1	Iroquois NWR	Christensen(BOS)
	26	60	Wainfleet Twp.	D&D Suggs
Northern Shrike	19F	1	Iroquois NWR	Christensen(BOS)
	26	1	Wainfleet Twp.	D&D Suggs
Solitary Vireo	5	3	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	5	2	Tifft Farm NP	Watson et al
Philadelphia Vireo	2	4(tower kills) Colden		Schaffner, A. Cla
Tennessee Warbler	2L	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Orange-cr. Warbler	17	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Nashville Warbler	19L	1	Fort Niagara SP	D'Anna, Potter
Northern Parula	4	1	Fort Niagara SP	D'Anna
	5L	1	Tifft Farm NP	D'Anna et al
Pine Warbler	2	1(tower kill) Colden		Schaffner, A. Cla
	5L	1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson et al
Palm Warbler	1	2	Tonawanda Twp.	Watson
	18	1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson
Hooded Warbler	5L	1	Tifft Farm NP	D&D Suggs, D'Anna
Rose-br. Grosbeak	27L	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Amer. Tree Sparrow	25	1	Tonawanda Twp.	Watson
	25	1	Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Potter
Savannah Sparrow	5-24L	3-10	Wales	O. Rosche

<u>Name of Bird</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Fox Sparrow	19F,25	3,1	Porter Twp.	D'Anna,Potter
	23	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	25	3	Tonawanda Twp.	Watson
	27,29	1,6	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Lincoln's Sparrow	2	2(tower kills)	S. Wales	Schaffner,A.Clark
	2,4	1,1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
Snow Bunting	25F	20	Westfield Twp.	Mosher,Chilton
	25F	1	Barcelona	Mosher,Chilton
	28	2	Fredonia	Mosher
Rusty Blackbird	19	3	Iroquois NWR	Christensen(BOS)
	25	2	Chautauqua Twp.	Mosher,Chilton
Purple Finch	6 reports throughout the region.			
White-w. Crossbill	25F	32	Charlotte Twp.	Andrle et al
Pine Siskin	8F,28-30	2,1-3	Silver Creek(f)	Neveu
	16	60	Olcott	Chilton
	25	120	Youngstown to Wilson	D'Anna,Potter
	26	15	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Evening Grosbeak	24F,29	3,2	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	26	2	Iroquois NWR	Endres

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....	267
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue.....	1
Total for year.....	268

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Report on the BOS Iroquois Wildlife Refuge Trip
October 19, 1986

It was the sort of day that inspired a poet to say "the frost is on the pumpkin and the chill is in the air";to describe the day as our trip started. Vibrating crystals covered the fields as seven BOS members drove to the Cayuga Pool Overlook on Route 77 in the IWR. Picking up another four members there, our first stop was a plowed field just north and adjacent to the White Memorial Game Farm on Route 63. Black-bellied Plover and Horned Larks were milling around there in large numbers. Some members reported hearing thin "jeet or jee-et" notes suggesting the presence of Water Pipits but we were unable to see any.

Next we drove over to the Oak Orchard Game Management Area. The temperature was now rapidly rising. Warmer clothing was now being abandoned. We proceeded on foot into the interior of the area along the southern edge of Windmill Marsh. Things now began to get more exciting. A Great Horned Owl flew across our path, landing in a tree about 200 feet away. We were able to get an excellent view of it, horns and all, through our telescopes. A few hundred feet further along, two American Bitterns flew up. They made several subsequent flights over the marsh. In flight, the outer wings showing black were easily seen. Still another few hundred feet along, someone spotted an early-arrived Northern Shrike.

Report on BOS Iroquois Wildlife Refuge Trip, cont.

This was three days after the earliest reported sighting in the BOS Date Guide. There was no trouble identifying this bird perched on top of a small tree near at hand. It presented itself to us in side profile and perfect light. Further along, a Marsh Hawk made its hunting flight over the marsh. Two more of these were to be seen later. We thought the waterfowl were more wary and skittish than usual due to the hunting season. Few were seen really up close. Nevertheless, we were able to identify geese, mallards, widgeons, a lone Ruddy Duck and a Pied-billed Grebe.

You can attempt to describe the beauty of the marsh at this time of year but words are not the same as being there. The intense blue of the open water reflecting the bright sky above, striking colors and shades of foliage, cat-tails, sedges, poplars and pines, shimmering light from the warmth of the sun's rays, geese and ducks taking flight and landing and wild sounds were all about us.

Bob Brock, Bob Cotsen, Ed Crohn and Alice McKale, wanting to explore farther, continued along the edge of the marsh eventually arriving on Albion Rd. The rest of us returned to our cars on Podunk Rd. and drove to Albion Rd. to pick them up. We returned to the IWR Administration building for lunch. Odmund Olsen, a biological technician working at the refuge, met us there. Without his kind assistance, we would not have been able to drive the Feeder Canal Road end to end since it required two gates to be opened. He constantly pointed out waterfowl to us that we would have missed being able to identify. Also, he led us on a side trip through a fall-foliaged woodland where we saw a Golden-crowned Kinglet and heard Red-bellied Woodpeckers.

Time was already passing too swiftly as we headed next for Ringneck Marsh. We had just enough time for Mr. Olsen to show us a photographer's blind there. Five o'clock approaching, we reluctantly set out for home. It was a truly splendid day.

We saw other birds also, Wood Ducks, Pintail, Blue and Green-winged Teal, Black, Shoveler, Gadwall and Ring-necked Ducks, Red-tailed Hawks, a Turkey Vulture, Killdeer, Rusty-black Birds, Purple Finches, a Hairy Woodpecker, Cedar Waxwings and others.

Dick Christensen

Report on Hawk Cliff, Ontario, Weekend
September 12-14, 1986

Hawk Cliff has long been recognized as one of the best location in North America to observe autumn hawk migration. It is located where County Road 22 (also known as Fairview Ave.), heading south out of St. Thomas, Ont., ends at Lake Erie. The area is undulating farmland, the only cliff being the eroding sand bluff which drops 150 feet to the water.

Report on Hawk Cliff Weekend, cont.

Fifteen Buffalo birders made the 150-mile (each way) trip, many arriving early enough to bird on Friday; most returning Sunday evening. We took time to visit several excellent shorebird/waterfowl sites nearby which will be described. The consensus was that this first organized BOS trip to Hawk Cliff should be repeated next year.

September is the month most likely to produce large hawk flights (although October may have more variety) and the weekend of Sept. 13-14 and 20-21 have the added attraction of an exhibit of banded hawks staged by the St. Thomas Field Naturalist Club and the Hawk Cliff Raptor Banding Station Committee.

As the sun broke out Friday after two rainy days it was evident that the signs of a good hawk flight were present; namely, a period of heavy rain followed by bright blue skies with cumulus clouds and west to NW winds.

Saturday fitted the above description perfectly. The hawks passed low overhead; the sharpies often flying below the cliff along the lake. Few broad-wing hawks came by but the tally of 1674 raptors included 3 immature bald eagles, 2 merlins, 16 osprey, 899 sharp-shinned hawks, 74 broadwing hawks, 650 kestrels, 27 northern harriers, 2 red-tailed hawks and 1 red-shouldered hawk.

Sunday was likewise sunny but with high thin clouds and the wind moving from the west to the south during the day. Four bald eagles (1 adult-3 imm.) were seen between noon and 1:15 p.m. Some were barely above tree-top height, a spectacular view. We finally got a good broad-wing flight but by mid-afternoon they were in high-altitude kettles. The Sunday tally of 2489 raptors included 9 species: 4 bald eagles, 1 merlin, 6 osprey, 370 sharp-shinned hawks, 2004 broad-wing hawks, 84 kestrels, 14 northern harriers, 4 red-tailed hawks, and 2 Cooper's hawks.

Hawk Cliff has good flights of songbirds and Monarch butterflies. Highlights included hundreds of ruby-throated hummingbirds and dozens of red-headed woodpeckers. Sunday the last migrating bird observed was a black-bellied plover in breeding plumage at 4:02 p.m.

A weekday stop at the Ministry of Natural Resources on Hwy. 3 in Aylmer (10 mi. E. of St. Thomas) was helpful. The official provided a copy of part of a large-scale map and marked 5 birding sites, two of which were very good.

At the Aylmer Wildlife Management Area (also known as the Ontario Police College) is a large, shallow pond on 207 acres of property. From March to mid-April it is a staging area for 15,000 swans. In fall, 10,000 and 20,000 ducks can be seen here. October 18-19 is designated "Waterfowl Viewing Weekend". The pond is surrounded by a chain-link fence but overlooked by an enclosed 2-story observation building located 100 yds. from the water's edge. In active seasons, access may be provided

Report on Hawk Cliff Weekend, cont.

to other viewing areas.

While there on a rainy Friday, we (Art Schaffner, Olive and William Burch) found 6 white-rumped sandpipers, 2 dowitchers and 5 other shorebird species plus 4 swallow species but only a few ducks. The site is reached as follows: take Hwy. 73 north out of Aylmer for 1 mile; turn right on Hwy. 32, go 1 mi. and turn left (still on Hwy. 32) at the intersection. Within 1/2 mi. look for the Police College entrance on right. Enter and drive toward the rear and right of the campus. Watch for the brown-wood observation building.

The Port Stanley sewage lagoons are a mile west of Pt. Stanley. Like other lagoons they can be a bonanza or a bust. We were pleased to find 9 red-necked phalarope, 2 ruddy ducks, 2 shovelers, 2 pintail, many blue-wing teal, 10 osprey and 800 Bonaparte's gulls. The lagoons can be hard to find so directions are detailed: Cross the Pt. Stanley harbor bridge in a westward direction. Turn right at the first street (this is parallel to the river). Go 0.9 mi. and turn left at intersection. Note the "Consumer Gas Co." directive arrow here and at next place. Go 0.7 mi. westward and take the gravel road which branches to the right. Go 0.7 mi. (you will pass the Gas plant) and look for the gate to the three lagoons on the left. Walk in. Yes, there is a "keep-out" sign.

The Fingal Wildlife Management Area is 7 miles beyond the sewage lagoons on the same road. In season they attract geese and ducks with corn fields and some ponds (not open to access in September). We found no birding there.

Eating places in Pt. Stanley include the Lakeview, near the bridge, which was liked by all for its good food and modest prices. The Clifton Inn had a good bar and good ambiance but was more expensive.

An excavated pond 1 mi. south of Belmont, west of Hwy. 74 was not productive. Likewise a pond 1 mi. NW of Aylmer.

As to accomodations, 10 birders stayed at the Maple Leaf Motel on Hwy. 3 at the east edge of St. Thomas, just east of the bypass. At this season, the motel was only one-third filled so reservations were not necessary, although most did make them. (Phone 1-519-631-6580). Five birders stayed at the excellent Springwater Conservation Area campground in trailer or tent. To reach it go 2 mi. west of Aylmer on Hwy. 3, then 3 mi. south on Hwy. 35. In either case Hawk Cliff was 10-12 mi. distant. By the way, you'll appreciate a folding chair at the hawk watch.

Bill Burch--Trip Coordinator

FROM FARTHER AFIELD

The increase in the number of nesting eagles in New York is more than matched by the spectacular results in the Chesapeake Bay region, according to Jackson M. Abbott, region survey coordinator writing in the Audubon Naturalist News for the Central Atlantic states.

He reported the number of eaglets produced per active nest increasing from 0.2 in 1962 to 0.6 in 1975, 1.0 in 1981 and 1.4 in 1986, nearly back to the pre-DDT norm of 1.8 in 1936. The first 4 egg/young clutch since 1936 was reported in Kent County, Md.

The area leading the increase was in southern Dorchester County, Md. where 13 active nests in 1986 produced 28 young, an average of 2.1 per nest. Next in abundance was Kent Co., with 9 active nests reporting a total of 16 young. In third place, both Richmond Co., Va. and Charles Co., Md. each had 8 active nests with 15 young.

The reactivation by new pairs of ancestral nest sites (abandoned for 10+ years) was particularly noted in 1986. One pair built a nest in Stafford Co., Va. and another on the Hundred Estate on the James River, sites unused since 1962. A reactivated site on the James River was last used in March 1963 when an adult eagle was found dying with sever tremors caused by DDT according to an autopsy. Two young were raised on an island in the Potomac River last used by nesting eagles in the 1950s. Most unusual, however, was the pair that built a nest and raised a young at a site last used in 1936 and which now is just off the end of an active jet runway at the Patuxent Naval Air Station.

These optimistic reports, however, are tempered by Mr. Abbott's account of an adult bald eagle found dead on the ground near its nest tree in Virginia; the nest contained two live and one dead eaglet along with pigeon remains. Apparently, the dead birds had ingested poisoned grain from the pigeons. Subsequent analysis found the killer to be the insecticide carbofuran which, being used on corn, alfalfa, rice, tobacco and sugar cane, has become the cause of death to waterfowl, eagles, hawks, owls, pheasants, pigeons, doves and some mammals. The results of the release of such potent chemicals argue for perfecting the propagation and release of natural enemies of insect pests.

Marian Dornhaffer

Alan McCarthy is preparing a history of Forest Lawn Cemetery. He is requesting birders to share their interesting experiences or memories with him. You may write to him c/o Forest Lawn Cemetery, 1411 Delaware Ave., Buffalo, N.Y. 14209

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Congratulations to Morgan Jones on his advancement to Active Membership in the Society.

Correction of an error:

David Suggs' name is misspelled in the roster.

FIELD TRIPS

- March 28 Saturday. Audubon Society trip to Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge for waterfowl. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Citibank in Transitown Plaza (S-E corner of Main and Transit).
Leader: Bill Burch (773-3690).
- March 29 Sunday. BOS Trip to Iroquois Refuge for waterfowl. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Citibank in Transitown Plaza.
Leader: Bill Burch (773-3690).
- April 4 Saturday (For Daylight Saving Time, set clock one hour ahead Saturday evening.)
- April 12 Sunday. April BOS Bird Count. For a territory, contact the compilers: Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter (731-4348)
- April 18 Saturday (Not Sunday). Hawk Migration at Grimsby, Ont. (30 miles into Canada). Trip may include bluebirds plus shorebirds at Smithville lagoon. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge customs parking lot on the American side of the river for car pooling. Leader: TBA. Destination: Beamer Conservation Area on escarpment above Grimsby.
- April 26 Sunday. Braddock Bay Hawk Watch, joint trip with Rochester GOS. Meet at Citibank, Transitown Plaza, at 7:00 a.m. to join the GOS at 9:30 a.m. at the Braddock Bay park shelter. Besides hawks, this trip may find western meadowlark, Brewer's blackbirds and others. Leaders: Mike Zebehazy (655-4777) and Bob Spahn of GOS.
- May 9 Saturday. Presque Isle and Pymatuning Weekend; joint trip with Buffalo Audubon Society. Call Mary Saville for reservations (662-5215). Note: Presque Isle is just beyond Erie, Pa., 80 miles from Buffalo. It is a warbler staging area and a hot spot at this season. A 1-day trip is well worth while.
- May 10 Sunday. Tifft Farm Nature Center and Times Beach. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in Tifft Farm parking lot. This is a half-day outing for warblers and other migrants. Leader: Bill Watson (695-2820)

- May 17 Sunday. May Bird Count of BOS. For a territory call the compiler Dave Cooper (284-4118).
- May 24 Sunday. Canadian shore of Lake Erie for shorebirds. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Vermont & Busti entrance to the Peace Bridge or at 7:30 a.m. at the first parking lot south of the bridge on the Canadian side.
- May 29-31 Friday to Sunday. Allegany Nature Pilgrimage, sponsored by four nature clubs. Register by May 1. For information, call Tom Harper (1-547-9563). The Park at this time also is good for a one-day trip for nesting mourning and parula warblers, bluebirds, etc. The maintenance road running east from Red House lake and road near Bova ski area are good spots.

Usually these trips take most of a day, so a lunch should be brought. For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690), Grand Island, N.Y.

MEETINGS

- March 11 Bruce Chilton's topic for the evening will be "Bird Evolution". Join us for an interesting and informative evening.
- March 25 Mary Ellen Foley from St. Catherines, Ontario will present a program on the Peregrine Hacking Project at St. Catherines, an interesting and rewarding program in which many BOS members may want to participate this year.
- April 8 VIREOS - a symposium on vireo species of our region presented by several members - to cover distinguishing characteristics of appearance, song & habit, as well as interesting aspects of behavior.
- April 22 Our president, David Cooper, will present a summary of his recent research in a program entitled: "Breeding Behavior of Ring-Billed Gulls - 1st Report of a Photo-study of a New Colony".
- May 13 Dr. David Booth, a naturalist and researcher from Adelaide, Australia, (currently engaged in advanced studies at the Dept. of Physiology of the SUNY at Buffalo) will present an interesting and unusual program entitled: "Nesting Biology of the Mound-building Bird - Malleefowl". Lets have a great turn-out to welcome our guest from "down-under".

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's club-room at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

For current bird sightings, call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.
(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-a-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

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MAY 12 1987

ITHACA, NY
NUMBER 14853

VOLUME 52

DECEMBER 1986

THE MONTH

November was cloudy and cold with an average temperature of 37.7° (F), 2.6° below normal for the period. After a mild first week, an Arctic cold front preceded by gale force winds up to 55 m.p.h. on November 9th caused local flooding and a sharp drop in temperatures with the first significant 'lake effect' squalls of the season in the snow belt south of Buffalo occurring on the 10th. The squalls moved north with a seven inch snowfall, the first of the season in the Town of Cheektowaga and South Buffalo on November 13th. Record low temperatures of 16° (F) and 15° (F) were recorded on the 13th and 14th respectively. Temperatures moderated considerably by the last week of the period, however, to end the month on a mild note. Precipitation measured 3.11 inches for the month at Greater Buffalo International Airport, .51 inches below average: snowfall measured 13.7 inches, 1.5 inches above normal. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

November was an exciting month afield. November 28th proved to be a serendipitous day for Terry Mahoney, president of the Lake Erie Bird Club in Chautauqua County. On that date, he glanced out of the window into the yard of his residence on Clinton Street in the Village of Fredonia and noticed a large brownish-gray wren hopping among concrete blocks, bricks and stones scattered there. Mahoney realized that he was looking at a bird that he had never seen before and took note of its field marks: grayish-white ventral coloration with fine light grayish-brown streaking on the breast and sides, flanks a rusty-buff color and a bright, cinnamon colored rump visible when the wren made one of its frequent short, erratic flights about the yard. He tentatively identified his find as a Rock Wren, a resident of rock strewn gullies and canyons in the mountains, plains and deserts of Western North America and summoned LEBC luminaries Allen Benton and Terry Mosher to confirm his identification. Later on that date, Bob Sundell, Frances Rew and a host of other local bird-watchers

arrived at the scene. The wren was subsequently seen by most of the active field observers in Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and southern Erie County before taking its leave on December 1st. It apparently found the scattered concrete blocks, bricks and stones in the yard a micro-habitat much to its liking and sustained itself by probing numerous dog droppings in the vicinity for an unidentified food source. It was the first record of this species for New York State and there has been some speculation as to how a bird of the arid, desolate places of the western part of the continent happened to be found in the verdant countryside of Chautauqua County. The consensus seems to be that it was transported east via open boxcar or a similar conveyance. Oddly enough, it is not the first record of a Rock Wren in the B.O.S. study area. On December 6th, 1964, a Rock Wren was discovered among a pile of rock slabs at the entrance to the Welland Canal at Port Weller, near St. Catharines, Ontario and the specimen was collected the following day.

On November 1st, an equally exciting observation was reported from the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge in Orleans County. On that date, three Fulvous Whistling-Ducks, a neo-tropical species that reaches the northern limit of its range in Louisiana and Texas, were seen by refuge personnel. Unfortunately, two had been reduced to possession by duck hunters, apparently unaware or uninterested in the significance of their targets. One of the two ducks was recovered and brought to the refuge administration building where it will be retained as a specimen. It is the second verified occurrence of this duck in our study area. In a previous incarnation as the Fulvous Tree Duck, two of these birds were observed at Yacht Harbour on Lake Erie in the Town of Fort Erie, Ontario on August 20th, 1962.

November was also a satisfying month for the gull-watchers. In Arthur Clark's apt phrase, "a blizzard of gulls" was reported from the upper rapids of the Niagara River at Niagara Falls to the sand dock in the gorge of the lower river at Queenston and across to Lewiston. An estimated 70,000 Bonaparte's Gulls were counted during the banner weekend of November 14th-16th when a total of 13 species of larids were seen within this restricted geographic area. In addition to the immature Sabine's Gull first reported at Queenston by Gordon Bellerby in October, and which graced the lower river with its colorful presence until mid-November, up to seven Little Gulls and an immature Black-legged Kittiwake were seen among the Bonaparte's Gulls there between November 8th and the end of the month. For the seventh consecutive year, an adult Common Black-headed Gull was present in the lower river in November. Once again, this gull was usually observed coursing up and down the river between the sand dock and the Lewiston Bridge although on November 23rd, it was also seen perched on a boat lift at Lewiston. An adult Lesser Black-backed Gull of the 'western' sub-species, L.f. graellsii was observed in the upper rapids of the river at Niagara Falls, Ontario on November 16th; a second gull of this species, also an adult, was seen on that date resting on the roof of the Adam Beck Generating Station in the lower river where its slaty-gray back made it easily discernable among the many Ring-bills and Herring Gulls associated with it. The Adam Beck Hydro Plant was also the scene of an observation of an adult Thayer's Gull by Bruce Chilton and Art Schaffner on November 14th. It is of interest that the Thayer's Gull, which for many years was regarded as a race of the Herring Gull,

was raised to the dignity of a full species following extensive field work by N. G. Smith on its breeding grounds on northwestern Baffin Island in the Arctic Ocean. Smith determined that eye coloration as well as selection of nesting site were isolating mechanisms between it and the Herring Gulls also breeding there (A.O.U. Ornithological Monograph #4, 1966). However, W. Earl Godfrey in the second edition of his Birds of Canada (1986) again reduces Thayer's Gull to a sub-species of the Iceland Gull, L. glaucoides with which it is also sympatric on Baffin Island and where the two species were observed to interbreed by Brian Knudsen of the National Museum of Canada during field work there in 1975 and 1976.

Other observations of interest in November include a record of a Red-throated Loon seen on Lake Ontario at Fort Niagara State Park by David and Debbie Suggs on the 23rd. Willie D'Anna and his party saw a Red-necked Grebe at Fort Niagara on the 16th. There was an excellent Tundra Swan flight in November. Bob Sundell and Ray Johnson counted 400 swans on Chautauqua Lake at Mayville on the 8th while Frances Rew and Lois Buck saw 68 swans there on the 27th. There were two Snow Geese among the waterfowl observed in passage at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge in early November. A blue phase Snow Goose was seen in Barcelona Harbor on Lake Erie in the Town of Westfield by Sundell and Johnson on the 20th. A Lesser Canada Goose (B.c. hutchinsii) was reported at the Iroquois Refuge on November 30th. Art and Olga Rosche found a female King Eider among the ducks at the confluence of Frenchman's Creek and the Niagara River in the Town of Fort Erie, Ontario on the 15th. It was subsequently seen by several other observers at that location until the 19th. On November 21st, the Rosches saw an adult male King Eider at Niagara-on-the-Lake. Another adult male of this species, presumably the same bird, was seen across the river at Fort Niagara State Park on November 23rd. On the 29th, the male eiders, a female King Eider and a flock of 350 Redhead ducks were seen at Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Bald Eagles are becoming increasingly more common in the skies of Western New York. On November 4th, Vivian Pitzrick saw an adult eagle over Amity Lake in Allegany County and on the 28th, Paul Hess reported an adult eagle in Lewiston in Niagara County. Two adult Bald Eagles were seen all month on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge where they were observed adding material to the nest in the Basswood Tree behind the Administration Building on Casey Road where two young birds were successfully fledged this summer. As noted previously in this newsletter, the adults were young birds brought to the refuge from Alaska as fledglings in 1982 and where they were successfully hacked and returned to breed.

Frances Rew and Lois Buck reported a very late Common Moorhen in Dunkirk Harbor on November 29th. Willie D'Anna saw the first Snowy Owl of the season in the Town of Tonawanda on the 20th. Two, and possibly three, Snowy Owls were seen on the Buffalo Waterfront between the Small Boat Harbor on Fuhrmann Boulevard and the Bird Island Pier in the Niagara River on several occasions late in the month. On November 18th, Don Endres found a flock of 15 to 20 Cedar Waxwings in a tree on the Oak Orchard Ridge Road in the Town of Shelby in Orleans County. As he stopped to scan this flock, the birds took flight and three landed in a tree near his car. One of these waxwings was noticeably larger than the others and its dark reddish undertail coverts and gray underparts identified it as a Bohemian

Waxwing, a life bird for Endres. A very late Northern Rough-winged Swallow was seen by Robert Brock on Dufferin Island at the Niagara Reservation State Park in Niagara Falls on November 8th. On the previous day, Bill Burch and Gordon Gallant of Toronto saw two Rough-winged Swallows flying over the rapids of the upper Niagara River at Niagara Falls, Ontario. The Niagara Reservation State Park was also the scene of an observation of a late Blackburnian Warbler seen by D'Anna and Potter in a flock of chickadees and kinglets in a mixed conifer-deciduous woodlot on Goat Island on November 8th.

Terry and Judy Mosher saw a late Chipping Sparrow at their feeder on the Harmon Hill Road in Fredonia on November 9th. On the 20th, Mary Clemesha reported a single Common Redpoll at her feeder in North Tonawanda in Niagara County and two days later, Paul Hess counted 25 redpolls in a flock in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Buffalo. These reports heralded what appears to be a major influx of these finches into Western New York this winter.

Finally, on November 1st, Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter were scanning a flock of 30 Pine Siskins at the Oakland Rural Cemetery in the Town of Porter in Niagara County when they noticed that one bird in the flock had unusual plumage. It was entirely pale yellow with no noticeable streaking. The observers were satisfied that morphologically this finch was a Pine Siskin of abnormal coloration; it had the characteristic deeper yellow spots on the base of its flight feathers and on the sides of the base of the tail.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

NOVEMBER 1986 NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the "Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario" (BOS 1984) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - indicates first record for the year.
- F - indicates first record for the migration.
- L - indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - indicates record from feeding station.

<u>Name of Bird</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
*Red-throated Loon	23	1	Fort Niagara SP	D&D Suggs
Common Loon	6 reports	from the	Great Lakes and Niagara R.	
Pied-billed Grebe	29	5	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Horned Grebe	8	36	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	23	1	Niagara River	Brock (BOS-GOS)
Red-necked Grebe	16	1	Fort Niagara SP	D'Anna et al
D.-crest. Cormorant	23	1	Niagara River	Brock (BOS-GOS)

<u>Name of Bird</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Tundra Swan	8F, 16	6, 6	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	12	400	Mayville	Sundell, Johnson
	12, 15	43, 21	Pomfret Twp.	Moshers
	27	68	Mayville	Rew, Buck
Snow Goose	1-16	2	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	10	2	Iroquois NWR	Chilton
	12	1	Barcelona Harbor	Sundell, Johnson
*Canada Goose	30	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
<u>B.c. hutchinsii</u>				
Wood Duck	23	1	Grand Island	Watson
Amer. Black Duck	13	36	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	Maximum count for the month.			
Northern Shoveler	8, 11	26, 12	Iroquois NWR	Watson
Gadwall	12	93	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	Maximum count for the month.			
Ring-necked Duck	8	2	Niagara River	Brock
	8, 11	4, 5	Iroquois NWR	Watson
King Eider	15F	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	A&O Rosche
	16, 18	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
	19	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Rew
	21	1	Niag.-on-the-Lake	A&O Rosche
	23	1	Fort Niagara SP	Brock (BOS-GOS)
	29	2	Niag.-on-the-Lake	D'Anna et al
Black Scoter	2	1	Buffalo Harbor	Watson
Surf Scoter	2, 22	3, 2	Buffalo Harbor	Watson
	22	5	Buffalo Harbor	Hess
	22	3	LaSalle Park, Bflo	Hess
Common Goldeneye	1	60	Lake Erie SP	Moshers et al
	4	1	Niagara River	Watson
Hooded Merganser	12	149	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	27	238	Mayville	Rew
	Maximum count for the month.			
Ruddy Duck	7, 22	16, 3	Lewiston Reservoir	D'Anna, Potter
	10	1	Buffalo Harbor	Andrle
	12	16	Mayville	Sundell, Johnson
Bald Eagle	4 (adult)	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	8, 11, 29	2, 1, 1	Iroquois NWR	Watson
	28 (adult)	1	Lewiston	Hess
Northern Harrier	2, 12-13	1, 1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	12	1	Java	A&O Rosche
Sharp-sh. Hawk	10	1	Wales	A&O Rosche
	14	1	Tonawanda Twp.	Chilton
	20	1	Darien(f)	Harper
Cooper's Hawk	10	1	Amity Lake	R. Pitzrick
	12	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	13	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	22	1	Times Beach, Bflo.	Andrle
	22	1	Tifft Farm NP	Watson
Rough-leg. Hawk	7	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
	8, 23	5, 1	Porter Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
	11, 17	1, 1	Ward Twp.	L&D Burton
	23, 29	1, 1	Porter Twp.	D&D Suggs

<u>Name of Bird</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Common Moorhen	<u>29</u> L	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Killdeer	<u>14</u>	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	Latest report of the month.			
Greater Yellowlegs	<u>4</u> L	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Ruddy Turnstone	<u>5</u> L	1	Goat Island	Chilton
Sanderling	<u>12</u> L	1	Goat Island	Watson
Purple Sandpiper	<u>5</u> F	2	Niagara Falls	Chilton
	<u>7-29</u>	<u>2-6</u>	Niagara Falls	Many Observers
Dunlin	<u>23</u>	<u>4</u>	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Brock (BOS-GOS)
	Latest report of the month.			
American Woodcock	<u>9</u> L	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Franklin's Gull	<u>4</u>	1	Niagara River	Watson
	<u>9</u>	<u>2</u>	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al
	<u>14, 17</u>	<u>1, 1</u>	Niagara Falls	Chilton
	<u>16</u>	<u>1</u>	Lewiston	D'Anna et al
	<u>23</u>	<u>1</u>	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Brock (BOS-GOS)
Little Gull	<u>1-29</u>	<u>2-6</u>	Lewiston	Many Observers
	<u>9-29</u>	<u>1-4</u>	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Many observers
<u>C. Bl.-headed Gull</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	Queenston, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
	<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	Queenston, Ont.	Chilton
	<u>8</u>	<u>1</u>	Queenston, Ont.	Brock et al
	<u>15-29</u>	<u>1</u>	Lewiston	D'Anna et al
Iceland Gull	<u>16</u> F	<u>1</u>	R. Moses Power	Andrle, Gregory
	<u>23</u>	<u>1</u>	Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna et al
* <u>L. Black-b. Gull</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>1</u>	Adam Beck Hydro	Andrle, Gregory
	<u>16, 29</u>	<u>1, 1</u>	Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna et al
Glaucous Gull	<u>8</u> F	<u>1</u>	Niagara River	Brock
	<u>14</u>	<u>1</u>	Niagara Falls	Chilton
* <u>Bl.-leg. Kittiwake</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>1</u>	Queenston, Ont.	Brock et al
	<u>15</u>	<u>1</u>	Queenston, Ont.	Watson, D'Anna et al
	<u>29</u>	<u>1</u>	Queenston, Ont.	D'Anna et al
<u>Sabine's Gull</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	Queenston, Ont.	Chilton
	<u>1, 8</u>	<u>1</u>	Lewiston	D'Anna, Potter
	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	Queenston, Ont.	Watson
	<u>8</u>	<u>1</u>	Queenston, Ont.	Brock et al
Common Tern	<u>8</u>	<u>1</u>	Niagara River	Brock
	<u>9</u> L	<u>10</u>	Buffalo	Hess
Snowy Owl	<u>20</u> F, <u>25</u>	<u>1</u>	Tonawanda Twp.	D'Anna
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	<u>1-30</u>	<u>1</u>	Lewiston (f)	Cooper
	<u>8, 11, 29</u>	<u>1-2</u>	Iroquois NWR	Watson
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	<u>16</u>	<u>1</u>	Lewiston	Andrle, Gregory
N. Rough-w. Swallow	<u>7</u>	<u>2</u>	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Burch et al
	<u>8</u> L	<u>1</u>	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Brock
Tufted Titmouse	<u>6-30</u>	<u>1-2</u>	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Red-br. Nuthatch	<u>6-19</u>	<u>1</u>	Silver Creek (f)	Neveu
	<u>18-22</u>	<u>1</u>	Belmont	L&D Burton
*Rock Wren	<u>29</u>	<u>1</u>	Fredonia	Mosher, Rew, Sundel et al
Carolina Wren	<u>19</u>	<u>2</u>	Fredonia	Mosher
Marsh Wren	<u>8, 11, 29</u> L	<u>1, 1, 1</u>	Tonawanda WMA	Watson
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	<u>15</u>	<u>1</u>	Goat Island	Watson, D'Anna

<u>Name or Bird</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
N. Mockingbird	14	1	Queenston, Ont.	Chilton
	16	1	Lewiston	Cooper
	23	1	Lewiston	Brock (BOS-GOS)
	27	1	Porter Twp.	Cooper
*Bonemian Waxwing	18	1	Iroquois NWR	Endres
Northern Shrike	1	1	Pomfret Twp.	Mosher
	23	1	Porter Twp.	D&D Suggs
	27	1	Portland Twp.	Rew, Buck
	29	1	Iroquois NWR	Watson
Yellow-r. Warbler	10	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Blackburnian Warbler	9L	1	Goat Island	D'Anna, Potter
Chipping Sparrow	14-16, 17	1	Pomfret Twp. (f)	Mosher
Fox Sparrow	4	1	Porter Twp.	D'Anna, Potter
	7	3	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
Swamp Sparrow	29	1	Iroquois NWR	Watson
Snow Bunting	5 reports from the lake plains	- 150		max.
Purple Finch	6, 15	6, 1	Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
	16	2	Darien (f)	Harper
Common Redpoll	20F	1	N. Tonawanda (f)	Clemesha, Laux
	22	25	Forest Lawn, Bflo.	Hess
	29	14	Queenston, Ont.	D'Anna et al
Pine Siskin	8 reports throughout the region	- 90		max.
Evening Grosbeak	7 reports throughout the region	- 61		max.

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded.....268
 Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue..... 6
 Total for year.....274

ACTIVITIES OF MEMBERS

Amity Lake Bluebird Trail 1986 E. Bluebird Nestings, Vivian M. Pitzrick

Summary

Total Nestings	49	Total Pairs	29
Pairs nesting once	11	Total young fledged	121
Pairs nesting twice	16	Nestings successful	31
Pairs nesting thrice	2	or 63%	
Total eggs	194	Pairs fledging at	
averaging 3.95/clutch		least one brood	13
Infertile eggs	11	Pairs fledging	
found in seven nests		two broods	9
Total young died in nests	13	Total Blowfly Larvae	1139
found in five nests		found in 25 nests	
		Ave. per nest	45.6
		Outcome unknown	
		(box doesn't open)	1

Summary of Bluebird Nests, cont.

Cause of Failures

Unknown predator	7	Raccoon	2	Infertile eggs	1
House Wrens	3	Weather	2	Tree Swallows	1
				Human Activity	1

A SHOT AT THE RECORD

BY

Willie D'Anna

I had always wanted to do a big day but for one reason or another I never had. Once, Betsy Potter and I were birding at Point Pelee on one particularly good May day. Sometime in the afternoon we tallied up our list and discovered that we might see 100 species if we made the effort. We did try and, in fact, were successful but I never considered that a big day. If we had planned a route from start to finish, birded all the hot spots in the area, started before sunrise and ended after sunset, and kept a rigorous list, now that, to me, would have been a big day.

So, when Dick Collins mentioned to me that he would like to do a May big day, I was ready. This was no passing whim with Dick, either. He had some very definite ideas on how we should run it, how we should prepare, and even what our goal should be. The New York State big day record, officially recognized by the American Birding Association (ABA), was 173 species and that, Dick said, should be our goal. I smiled and suggested a more realistic goal of 150 species. Dick, however, would not be deterred. We both did agree that our preparation should consist of four practice big days, one in each of the months preceding May. Our first one, in January, was quite a success, not to mention a lot of fun. The "team" consisted of Dick, Betsy, myself and David Cooper, our regular birding companion. Dick's goal had been 65 species, of which I was skeptical. Our total of 62, however, was much better than I had figured and I began to wonder if maybe Dick was not being so blindly optimistic after all. This first big day effort really got us excited and I began to understand how pleasantly addictive these marathons could be.

Our planning started in earnest when Dick, using his computer, compiled a checklist of the May big day possibilities for Western New York. He also made one for March and one for April. In addition, he rated the May species one to five, one being the easiest to find and five the hardest. The other team members were also to rate the birds and any differences would be discussed. We would then use this data on our big day, making sure that we saw all species rated one and most

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rated two. Species rated three, four, or five would have stops listed where we would be especially alert for them.

On our second practice run Dick and I alone managed 65 species. Since we had considered February deader than January, we were especially encouraged by our effort. Although we still had three months to wait, Dick and I were already filled with anticipation. We eagerly discussed plans at every opportunity. One important matter which we discussed concerned a fourth member of our team. David was a willing partner but Betsy, although supportive of our ambition, had no inclination to do a big day herself. Dick and I felt that with three people some birds might go unnoticed. So, we decided to ask someone whom I had never met before and Dick had birded with only once. I knew from his monthly records sent into the Buffalo Ornithological Society that Dave Gagne frequently found interesting birds. Would he care to do a big day with three people he really did not know at all? Dave not only accepted our invitation but his enthusiasm was enough to assure me that we had made the right choice. We would not know until the big day, however, just how good that choice was.

On a cold and windy March day our January team got back together and listed a paltry 55 species. "Too inhospitable for birds," someone reasoned, but it still brought the disquieting thought that we would have to more than triple that figure to reach our goal in May.

April brought more and more birds back to our part of the world and Betsy and I spent much of the time chasing after them, I, sharpening my birding skills for the month ahead and Betsy, relishing the return of spring. I found it difficult to understand how Dick, David and Dave could have more important obligations, yet, we never could find time for a big day that month. All was not a complete waste, however, as we began to firm up our route and some other details. I believe it was when David heard Dick and me discussing the time that we should begin, 2:30 a.m., that I first noticed his eyes begin to widen. (We actually started one hour before that!) Big days were new to David, as they were to me. Even Dick, who had been running solitary big days for years had never attempted one in May before. Only Dave Gagne had had that experience but we did not even realize that when we selected him as our fourth partner. Did three newcomers to the game and a fourth teammate they did not know have a realistic shot at the state record? It seemed incredible and yet, I could not completely convince myself that we did not.

Dave lived in Jamestown, about 100 miles south of the rest of us who lived north of Buffalo. This was one good reason why we did not all get together until May 4. Dave took us around to the hot spots in the "southern tier" of western New York. Although we started late and ended early, we still managed nearly 100 species. On this day I gained confidence that Dave would have no trouble guiding us through the latter half of our marathon. I only hoped that we northerners could as effectively lead the team through our territory.

On May 16, two days before our scheduled run, Dick, David and I scouted the northern half of our route. It was a memorable day. We had over 110 species and it ended before 3:30. It was the first time I had ever topped the century mark in New York. Our day began in a dawn rain with a singing Connecticut Warbler at Hamlin Beach State Park, a code 5 species! And before it ended a listen to the weather

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radio informed us that a front would move through the region that night. Weather fronts are noted for bringing in large waves of migrants, so this was a golden opportunity. We changed our plans and pushed our starting time ahead one day. We would begin in ten hours!

Tired from a hard day of birding I was asleep by 4:30 p.m. Although I awoke early at 11:00 I felt refreshed and raring to go. I put the phone back on the hook and began preparing my meals for the long day ahead. At 11:30 the phone rang. It was Betsy who was in Rochester visiting her mother. She wanted to know if she could tell me what she had seen. Under ABA rules a team cannot receive any outside information during the 24 hour period of the big day, starting at midnight. So, with a half hour to spare Betsy informed me about an egret she had seen at Iroquois. "It looked small," she said, "but I didn't have a telescope." Dismissing her suggestion of a rarer species, I gratefully thanked her, for although a Great Egret was not unusual, I knew it could be a tough bird to get.

At 1:30 a.m. on May 17, 1986 David Cooper and I met Dave Gagne and Dick at the Nickel City Cafe in Williamsville, N.Y. At long last THE big day was under way. Excitement and enthusiasm ran extremely high. These were feelings I had experienced more as a child than as an adult.

As we rode to the swamps I read aloud the ABA big day rules and David, using a checklist especially designed for this day by Dick, began preparing for his responsibility as recorder. At 2:05 a.m. we stopped on Meadville Road at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, opened the doors of the van, and listened to the song of our first species- a Marsh Wren. The sleepy cattail marsh awoke en masse when we played a taped call of the Virginia Rail- about ten answered us. With the aid of a tape we also got a Sora and, incredibly, a King Rail, a code 5 bird! What a start! We had to remind ourselves, however, that although we had gotten a great bird, it still only counted as one and we had missed both bitterns and a Screech Owl that was not where we had found him a few weeks previous.

At Bergen Swamp we tried with tapes for Saw-Whet, Barred, Screech, and Great Horned Owls, and Whip-poor-will, all to no avail. Somewhat disappointed we headed toward Norway Road where we would spend the productive dawn hour. Productive indeed! One of the first birds we got there, at 4:50 a.m., was a Henslow's Sparrow which Dave Gagne picked out of a cacophony of bird song. Bird song was something I had considered as one of my strong points. I learned a lot from Dave on this day, however. He not only knew the songs but all the calls as well. What really impressed me, though, was his ability to identify the song or call at a great distance, even when there were dozens of other birds singing. As we walked down Norway Road Dave would blurt out the bird he heard and simultaneously shoot out his arm with his index finger extended to indicate the direction that the bird was singing from. He was so unerringly accurate with this that I began to fantasize that he was shooting the birds with his arm and we just had to pick them up. Bang, there goes a Cerulean Warbler. Pow, there's a Towhee. Bang, it's a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. One after the other was collected on our list. The only thing that slowed Dave up was when one of us needed a little extra help picking out the song.

Norway Road was incredible on this morning. The Vesper Sparrow,

"A Shot at the Record"

a species which has declined drastically in this region to the point of being a tough bird to get, was heard singing as were two more Henslow's and our only Great Horned Owl.

Our list grew along with our spirits as we headed out to Lake Ontario at 6 a.m. A Common Loon calling overhead was a delight to hear while the Borrow Pits were loaded with ducks and shorebirds. At Hamlin Beach we could not find the Connecticut Warbler but we still picked up several common species. Island Cottage Woods, near Rochester, a locally renowned bird sanctuary and migrant stopover on Lake Ontario, was crawling with both birders and birds. It was probably here that we picked up our 100th species, shortly after 8:00.

However, I found out later that we missed a Kentucky Warbler. If we had not been doing the big day I probably could have seen this life bird simply by asking some of the birders what was around. So it goes!

Backtracking along the lake shore we make an impromptu stop at a small isolated stand of spruce trees to try for a Cape May Warbler, which we knew would be difficult in the southern tier. As Dave played his Screech Owl tape I watched in amazement as literally dozens of warblers converged around the tree concealing the recorder. Dozens more were migrating past overhead in one of the most incredible birding spectacles I have ever witnessed. We found our Cape May and even flushed a Green-backed Heron from one spruce tree.

By now it was apparent that we had made the right move in choosing this day. The shorebirds that we picked up in the flooded fields on the way to the swamps reemphasized this. Though they were common species, shorebirds can be hit or miss in the spring. We finished the day with 15 species, an excellent total.

We arrived for our diurnal visit to Iroquois with a hefty 123 species. The "95% rule" which one must always be aware of when doing a big day, was no problem on this occasion. This ABA rule requires that 95 percent of all species recorded must be seen or heard by every member of the team. Up to this point there were only two species not seen by everyone. So, with 51 to go for a new state record, we were cautiously optimistic. We felt that there were enough species left to get but that now it was a matter of time. Sour Springs Road in the heart of the refuge is a favorite place for birders that is known for Prothonotary Warbler, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, owls, Pileated Woodpecker, Hooded Merganser, bitterns, and a host of other tough to find birds. This day it did not disappoint as we picked up an incredible 8 species in only 40 minutes. Brown Creeper, Yellow-throated Vireo, and Mourning Warbler were the best birds we got there. Before leaving the swamps we saw the Bald Eagle on its nest and we stopped at Cayuga Pool for a Coot and at the spot where Betsy had seen the Great Egret. As we pulled up to the dike a slender white bird became visible on the far edge of the pool. "That egret looks small," someone remarked. Hurriedly, we set up our scopes and proceeded to tick off our second Code 5 species of the day, a Snowy Egret! I vaguely remembered Betsy's remark on the phone hours earlier. "Thank's, Betsy," I thought to myself, "I'll believe you next time."

Really high from our success at Iroquois and savoring the Snowy Egret, we made the hour long trip to Times Beach and Tifft Farm while

"A Shot at the Record"

eating our lunch. Along the way we picked up Dick's wife, Nancy, to act as our chauffeur. This is acceptable under ABA rules as long as she provides no information having to do with birds she knows of or that she sees. If you are a birder, and Nancy is, this is no easy task. However, she upheld the rules admirably and even refrained from telling us about a Red-headed Woodpecker that flew over our heads.

We pulled into Times Beach on Lake Erie at 1:30 p.m. and were shocked to find it fogged in. As a result we missed the Mute Swan that was usually there. Although we did pick up a Least Bittern and American Wigeon, we spent nearly 50 minutes, much more time than we had planned. Now, behind schedule, we decided to skip the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve and go directly down to the southern tier.

We were to the point now, at 138 species, that it would be difficult to get more than one species at a stop. Also, unlike the northern half of our route, most of our stops would be aimed at individual birds or pairs, many on territory. These individuals had been staked out by Gagne and his birding contacts. In most instances Dave knew more than the general location of a bird. He also knew the approximate size of its territory and its habits. This was very helpful in enabling us to locate the birds quickly.

Having a firm grasp of our route, how long it would take to run through it, and what species we could get, Dave calculated that we probably would not reach our goal. However, with a good deal of luck it was still possible to break the state record. There were still plenty of birds to see but would there be enough light to see them?

We were relieved to get a Common Tern at Dunkirk Harbor, our first stop in an hour. We had expected them at Times Beach but the fog kept them hidden. En route to our next stop we finally spotted a Kingfisher, our only one of the day. We picked up a Red-headed Woodpecker in the nest tree at Point Gratiot, the same one that Nancy watched fly over our heads while we were busy looking for other birds.

It was not until later that she found out we had already seen it. There were no Clay-colored Sparrows at Fredonia Airport this year but the previously reported Black-bellied Plover was still off Farel Road, spotted by Dick at a half-mile distance!

Stop after stop Dave would tell us what we were to look for and more often than not we would find it. At Chautauqua Lake the Bonaparte's Gull was not there but a Caspian Tern and two Ruddy Turnstones were a delightful surprise. Eastern Bluebird, Grasshopper Sparrow, and Prairie Warbler (code 4) were right where we expected to find them while a recently arrived Black-billed Cuckoo was a bonus. At Sawmill Run Road we picked up an incredible four species in only twenty minutes: Hermit Thrush, Dark-eyed Junco, Solitary Vireo, and Louisiana Waterthrush- all expected. The Allegany Reservoir was also productive with Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warblers, a Common Merganser, Cliff Swallows, and Orchard Oriole (code 4). However, these birds were not as surprising as ten Double-crested Cormorants.

As we raced into Allegany State Park at 8:00 the light was fading fast. At 161 species we now knew we would fall short of the record but we still pressed on. The Golden-crowned Kinglets were still active but the Red-breasted Nuthatches were asleep. At 8:35 a calling Barred Owl provided our 163rd species and almost simultaneously a

"A Shot at the Record"

Winter Wren poured forth its beautiful tinkling song. It was fairly dark now and little else was singing. On a whim Dick told Nancy to pull over at a little brook running through the woods and beneath the road. We listened attentively. Suddenly, Dave's arm shot out while he proclaimed, "Acadian Flycatcher!" We all clamored out of the van to listen to the distinctive "pit-seet!" call of our 165th species.

In the dark we tried unsuccessfully for Ruffed Grouse, Whip-poor-will, and American Bittern. However, we did get a Screech Owl at 10:05, our 166th and last species of the day. At 10:40 p.m. after birding for over 21 hours and 471 miles we called it a day. We were eight species shy of a new state record. Yet, as we said our good-byes to Dave in Jamestown, no one expressed remorse or regrets. The consensus was that we had done a great job. We had certainly picked the right day, with an impressive collection of migrants. There were many more than 174 species out there. We would just have to adjust our route a little to maximize our possibilities within the daylight hours. With the experience of one big day under our belts, our chances could only get better.

Big Day Summary - May 17, 1986

Team: Dick Collins, David Cooper, Dave Gagne, Willie D'Anna

Location: Western New York

Time: 1:30 a.m. to 10:40 p.m.

Miles: By car - 471 (plus 100 more to get home!)

The Route: Iroquois NWR, Bergen Swamp, Norway Road, Borrow Pits, Hamlin Beach S.P., Braddock's Bay S.P., Island Cottage Woods, Borrow Pits, Iroquois NWR, Times Beach, Dunkirk Harbor, Pt. Gratiot, Fredonia Airport, Lake Chautauqua, Burgeson W.R., Saw Mill Run Road, Allegany Reservoir, Allegany S.P., Cheny Marsh.

Total Species Recorded: 166

Total Seen by All: 162 - 97.6%

Code 1 Birds (easy to get): 80 of 82 (98%) (Our only misses, Red-shouldered Hawk and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, should be Code 3!)

Code 2 Birds (should get): 51 of 65 (78%)

Code 3 Birds (may get): 26 of 43 (60%)

Code 4 Birds (lucky to get): 7 of 37 (19%)

Code 5 Birds (very lucky to get): 2 of 23 (9%)

Waterfowl recorded (ducks and geese only): 16 species.

Shorebirds recorded (Plovers, sandpipers, snipe, woodcock): 15 species

Warblers recorded: 27 species.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to new Associate Member: Pamela Gunther
103 Marine Drive
N. Tonawanda, N.Y. 14120
Telephone: 691-6647

Vol. 52, No. 12 "Membership News" cont.

New phone number for Dick Collins is 683-3699

New address for Alice Ulrich is 305 High Street, Lockport, NY 14094

Please add "The Wilderness Society" to David Wilcove's address.

Word has recently been received of the death in July 1986 of Mrs. George C. Letchworth. Our sincerest condolences to the family.

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

- April 22: Our president, David Cooper, will present a summary of his recent research in a program entitled: "Breeding Behavior of Ring-billed Gulls - 1st Report of a Photostudy of a New Colony".
- May 13: Dr. David Booth, a naturalist and researcher from Adelaide, Australia, (currently engaged in advanced studies at the Dept. of Physiology of the SUNY at Buffalo) will present an interesting and unusual program entitled: "Nesting Biology of the Mound-building Bird - Malleefowl". Lets have a great turnout to welcome our guest from "down-under".
- May 27: Dr. Robert Beason from the Biology Dept. of the State University of New York at Geneseo will present an interesting program on Magnetic Orientation and other means of direction-finding in the migration of the Bobolink.
- June 10: Annual Picnic Meeting at Fort Erie Picnic Shelter (the old stone fort). We will meet to share a meal, discuss the May Count results, and do a little birding along the Lake Erie Shore. Please bring your own food & beverage.
- Sept. 25 1000th MEETING! (Friday evening)
Dinner meeting at Samuel's Grande Manor.

For further information on meetings, contact Morgan Jones, Program Committee Chairman (433-5687).

FIELD TRIPS

- April 26: Sunday. Braddock Bay Hawk Watch, joint trip with Rochester GOS. Meet at Citibank, Transitown Plaza, at 7:00 a.m. to join the GOS at 9:30 a.m. at the Braddock Bay park shelter. Besides hawks, this trip may find western meadowlark, Brewer's blackbirds and others. Leaders: Mike Zebehazy (655-4777) and Bob Spahn of GOS.
- May 9-10: Sat. & Sun. Presque Isle and Pymatuning Weekend; joint trip with Buffalo Audubon Society. Call Mary Saville for reservations (662-5215). Note: Presque Isle is just beyond Erie, Pa., 80 miles from Buffalo. It is a warbler staging area and a hot spot at this season. A 1-day trip is well worthwhile.
- May 10: Sunday. Tifft Farm Nature Center and Times Beach. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in Tifft Farm parking lot. This is a half-day outing for warblers and other migrants. Leader: Bill Watson (695-2820).
- May 17: Sunday. May Bird Count of BOS. For a territory call the compiler: Dave Cooper (284-4118).
- May 24: Sunday. Canadian shore of Lake Erie for shorebirds. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Vermont & Busti entrance to the Peace Bridge or at 7:30 a.m. at the first parking lot south of the bridge on the Canadian side.
- May 29-31: Friday to Sunday. Allegany Nature Pilgrimage, sponsored by four nature clubs. Register by May 1. For information, call Tom Harper (1-547-9563). The Park at this time also is good for a one-day trip for nesting mourning and parula warblers, bluebirds, etc. The maintenance road running east from Red House Lake and the road near Bova Ski area are good spots.

Usually these trips take most of a day so a lunch should be brought. For further information about field trips, contact William Burch, Field Trips Committee Chairman (773-3690), Grand Island, N.Y.

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.
(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-a-Bird.)

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. William D'Anna, 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

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BACK ISSUES: Available from the treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$10.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Barbara Halvorsen (typing)
Brad Lown (mailing)

EDITOR: Charles Halvorsen
9 Yale Place
Buffalo, N.Y. 14210
(716) 826-9247

* * * * *

the 1000th

meeting of the

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

will be a DINNER meeting at

Samuel's Grande Manor

8750 Main Street, Clarence N.Y. (Rt. 5)

FRIDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 25, 1987

6:30 PM - Cash Bar

7:30 PM - Buffet Dinner (3-Entree)

8:30 PM - Program / Speaker

#15.00 per person

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